

Ed and Vince;

Two members of the Burns family called. They had spoken to Father Pollard and he told them to call here. They are concerned about the news re: Eugene Burns, [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. They knew nothing!

[REDACTED]

They would each appreciate a call from either one of you.

File: Eugene Burns

Rather thick but most is health related and early retirement.

Had problems with [REDACTED] and went to [REDACTED] several times.

Retired in 1992

Died January 14, 2005

It seemed as if there is one allegation made in April 2004. At that time it seems as if Fr. Burns' health was very poor. Recent settlement made.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

*Chancery Office*

719 NORTH WABASH AVENUE  
CHICAGO 11, ILLINOIS

April 29<sup>th</sup> 1955

His Eminence, Samuel Cardinal Stritch, D.D.,  
Archbishop of Chicago.

Your Eminence:-

Realizing what it may mean to me in the future, conscious of the source of edification which it will certainly be for others, and glad of an opportunity to comply with your wish, which has as its object my own welfare and the welfare of those who may be entrusted to my care, I willingly bind myself for five years from the day of my ordination to the priesthood to abstain from all intoxicants.

With sentiments of reverence and obedience, I  
beg to remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. *Eugene P. Burns*

②

June 29, 1955

**My dear Father Burns:**

**I hereby appoint you assistant to the pastor of  
St. Anne Church, Hazelcrest, Illinois.**

**You will kindly report for duty to Father Sweeney  
on July 7th.**

**With blessing,**

**Archbishop of Chicago**

**Rev. Eugene Patrick Burns  
6516 S. Albany Av.  
Chicago ILL**

AOC 009412

June 22, 1961

My dear Father Burns:

I hereby appoint you ~~assistant~~ to the pastor  
of St. Catherine Laboure Church, Glenview, Illinois,  
transferring you from assistant to the pastor of St. Ann  
Church, Hazelcrest, Illinois.

You will kindly report for duty on Wednesday,  
July 5th, to Father Buckley, the pastor.

With blessing, I remain,

Very sincerely yours in Christ,

Archbishop of Chicago

Reverend Eugene P. Burns

St. Ann Rectory

16802 Lincoln St.

Hazelcrest Ill.

*Priest File*



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

Office of the Archbishop

May 10, 1966

C

Reverend Eugene P. Burns  
St. Catherine Labouré Rectory  
1615 Elmdale Avenue  
Glenview, Illinois 60025

Dear Father Burns:

O

It gives me great pleasure to appoint you as Assistant to the Rt. Rev. Magr. James C. Hardiman, Pastor of St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church, Chicago, Illinois, and in accordance with Canon 476, 3, to grant you the necessary faculties for the faithful discharge of that duty.

P

This appointment is effective May 16, 1966, but I would ask you to make arrangements with the Pastor about the exact date when you assume your new duties.

Y

Wishing you every blessing and priestly success in this pastoral assignment, I am, dear Father Burns,

Very truly yours in Christ,

Archbishop of Chicago

Chancellor

cc: Rt. Rev. Magr. James C. Hardiman

AOC 009414

*Priest file*



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

Office of the Archbishop

May 31, 1968

C

Reverend Eugene P. Burns  
St. Nicholas of Tolentine Rectory  
3721 West 62nd Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60629

O

Dear Father Burns:

It gives me great pleasure to appoint you as Vicarius Cooperator to the Reverend David C. Fullmer, Pastor of St. Denis Church, 8301 S. St. Louis Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, and in accordance with Canon 476, 3, to grant you the necessary faculties for the faithful discharge of that duty.

P

This appointment is effective June 10, 1968, but I would ask you to make arrangements with the Pastor about the exact date when you will assume your new duties.

Y

Wishing you every blessing and priestly success in this pastoral assignment, I am, dear Father Burns,

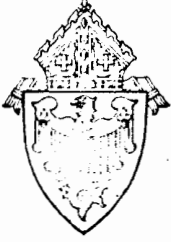
Very truly yours in Christ,

Archbishop of Chicago

Co-Chancellor

cc: Rev. David C. Fullmer

*Priest file*



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

Office of the Archbishop

May 30, 1973

C  
O  
P  
Y  
  
Reverend Eugene P. Burns  
St. Denis Rectory  
8301 S. St. Louis Ave.  
Chicago, Illinois 60652

Dear Father Burns,

In accordance with Canon 476, and following the recommendation of the Clergy Personnel Board, His Eminence, Cardinal Cody, is pleased to appoint you as Vicarius Cooperator to

Reverend Joseph F. Burke, Pastor  
St. Joseph Parish - Homewood

and grants you the necessary faculties for the faithful discharge of that duty.

This appointment will be effective June 11, 1973, but I would ask you to make arrangements with the pastor about the exact date when you will assume your new duties.

Wishing you every blessing and priestly success in this pastoral assignment, I am, dear Father Burns,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

---

Vicar General and Chancellor

cc: Reverend Joseph F. Burke, Pastor - St. Joseph Parish  
Reverend David C. Fullmer, Pastor - St. Denis Parish

AOC 009416



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

Office of the Vicar General

May 31, 1979

C

Reverend Eugene P. Burns  
St. Joseph Rectory  
17951 Dixie Highway  
Homewood, Illinois 60430

O

Dear Father Burns:

In accordance with Canon 476, and following the recommendation of the Diocesan Clergy Personnel Board, His Eminence, John Cardinal Cody, is pleased to appoint you as Associate Pastor to the Reverend Eugene F. Riordan, Pastor, St. Terrence Parish, Alsip.

P

This appointment is effective June 11, 1979, but I would ask you to make arrangements with the Pastor about the exact date when you will assume your new duties.

Y

Wishing you every blessing and priestly success in your new pastoral assignment, I am, dear Father Burns,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. Richard A. Rosemeyer  
Vicar General and Chancellor

cc: Reverend Eugene F. Riordan, Pastor, St. Terrence Parish, Alsip  
Reverend Joseph F. Burke, Pastor, St. Joseph Parish, Homewood  
Diocesan Clergy Personnel Board





ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

*must file*

Office of the Archbishop

July 29, 1980

C  
O  
P  
Y

Reverend Eugene P. Burns  
Stl Terrence Parish  
4320 W. 189th Place  
Alsip, Illinois 60658

Dear Father Burns,

I wish to inform you that His Eminence, Cardinal Cody, is pleased to appoint you as Vicar Substitute for the Reverend Eugene F. Riordan, Pastor of St. Terrence Parish in Alsip, and to grant you the necessary faculties to care for the parish during the Pastor's illness (Canon 474).

With every good wish, I am, dear Father Burns,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. Francis A. Brackin  
VICAR GENERAL

cc: Reverend Eugene Riordan, Pastor  
Very Rev. John W. Curran - Urban Vicar, Region XI

AOC 009418



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

Office of the Chancellor

January 29, 1981

C  
Reverend Eugene P. Burns  
St. Terrence Rectory  
4320 W. 119th Place  
Alsip, Illinois 60658

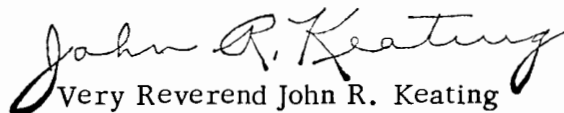
Dear Father Burns:

O  
In accordance with Canon 476, and following the recommendation of the Diocesan Clergy Personnel Board, His Eminence, John Cardinal Cody, is pleased to appoint you as Associate Pastor to the Reverend James P. O'Donnell, Pastor, Our Lady of Knock parish, Calumet City.

P  
This appointment is effective February 1, 1981, but I would ask you to make arrangements with Father O'Donnell about the exact date when you will assume your new duties.

Wishing you every blessing and priestly success in your new pastoral assignment, I am, dear Father Burns,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Y  
  
Very Reverend John R. Keating  
Chancellor

cc: Very Reverend Raymond P. Nugent, Urban Vicar, Vicariate XII  
Rev. James P. O'Donnell, Pastor, Our Lady of Knock parish, Calumet City  
Rev. Eugene F. Riordan, Pastor, St. Terrence parish, Alsip  
Diocesan Clergy Personnel Board

bcc: Angie Punzi -- for TCC, week of Feb. 1; NOTICES.

JRK:ag

AOC 009419



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

Office of the Archbishop

July 27, 1981

Reverend Eugene P. Burns  
Our Lady of Knock Rectory  
1411 Burnham  
Calumet City, Illinois 60409

Dear Father Burns:

Due to the transfer of the Reverend Charles J. Burnikel, Pastor of Queen of Apostles parish, Riverdale, that parish will become vacant on August 1, 1981.

In accordance with Canon 455 of the Code of Canon Law and following the recommendation of the Diocesan Clergy Personnel Board, we are pleased to appoint you herewith as Pastor of Queen of Apostles parish, Riverdale, with full spiritual and temporal administrative powers, and we heartily commend you to the good people there.

This appointment is effective August 1, 1981, and, in accord with Archdiocesan policy is valid for a term of six years, that is, to August 1, 1987. We wish you to take canonical possession of this parish as soon as this appointment becomes effective.

You will assume canonical possession and jurisdiction of the above-mentioned parish as soon as the Profession of Faith is taken (August 1 or thereafter, but not before) before the Urban Vicar, the Very Reverend Raymond P. Nugent, acting as our Delegate according to the provisions of Canon Law.

Wishing you every blessing in this pastoral office, we remain,

Very truly yours in Christ,

+ John Cardinal Cody  
Archbishop of Chicago

John R. Keating  
Chancellor

cc: Diocesan Clergy Personnel Board

AOC 009420



# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

Office of the Vicar General

## ATTESTATION OF ACT OF INSTALLATION IN THE NAME OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY, AMEN

Under the Roman Pontificate of His Holiness, Pope John Paul II, His Eminence, John Cardinal Cody, being Archbishop of Chicago, I do hereby attest that the

REV. EUGENE P. BURNS

duly appointed pastor whose letter of appointment bears the date of July 27, 1981, has on this date in accordance with Canon Law (Canon 461) and the statutes of the Archdiocese of Chicago taken canonical possession of the parish of

Queen of Apostles  
207 W. 145th St.  
Riverdale, Illinois 60627

*Very Rev. Raymond P. Nugent*  
URBAN VICAR *RPN*

Dated: 8/16/81



# Queen of Apostles Parish

207 WEST 145th STREET

RIVERDALE, ILLINOIS 60627

(312) 849-4901

December 8, 1983

Dear Cardinal Bernardin,

I am writing this letter to advise you of my resignation from the pastorate at Queen of Apostles to be effective December 31, 1983.

As you may recall I requested to be released from this office when we discussed my situation last February. At that time you requested that I reconsider the matter to avoid making a hasty decision.

I have given this situation prayerful study since and have discussed at length all aspects of this action with my counselor, sponsor and physicians.

It is my decision that I must seek a different work environment. I believe God has led me to this decision, so that I can maintain [REDACTED] The nature of this particular work atmosphere at Queen of Apostles



## Queen of Apostles Parish

---

207 WEST 145th STREET

RIVERDALE, ILLINOIS 60627

(312) 849-4901

*is a continual threat to my recovery.  
I hope the urgency of the situation  
will prompt your early reply.*

*Sincerely yours in Christ,  
Rev. Eugene P. Burns*



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

Office of the Archbishop

December 19, 1983

C

Dear Gene:

I have received your letter informing me of your decision to resign from the pastorate of Queen of Apostles Parish. I surely can understand the reasons which have prompted this decision.

O

I have brought this to the attention of the Clergy Personnel Board and they have supported your request to be relieved of the pastorate of Queen of Apostles. A member of the Board will soon be calling you to make the appropriate arrangements for this to take place.

P

Gene, I want you to know of my own personal concern at this time. I respect the decision that you have made and know that it must have been made with a great deal of prayer and thought. If I can assist you in the weeks and months ahead, please do not hesitate to call.

With cordial good wishes, I remain

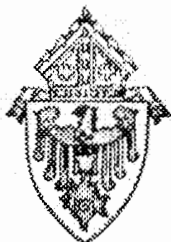
Fraternally yours,

Y

Archbishop of Chicago

Reverend Eugene P. Burns  
Queen of Apostles Church  
207 West 145th Street  
Riverdale, Illinois 60627

cc: Clergy Personnel Board



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

Office of the Archbishop

February 23, 1984

Dear Gene:

I am writing in response to your letter of February 18, 1984.

Following your directions, I am disregarding your recent request to become Associate Pastor of SS. Faith, Hope and Charity parish. I am glad to see that you have done further discerning on this matter. I can understand your decision at this time.

Concerning your request for permission for a leave of absence in the form of a sabbatical, given the reasons that you have expressed to me, I am happy to grant permission for this. I am asking Father Thomas Ventura, Vicar for Priests, to work out specific details for this. Although I am anxious for you to have this time away, I do think it is important for you to remain in contact with the Archdiocese of Chicago and not be isolated from your brother priests who are concerned about you.

Know of my continued prayers for you.

With cordial good wishes, I am

Faternally yours in Christ,

Archbishop of Chicago

Reverend Eugene Burns  
1662 W. 187th Street  
Homewood, Illinois 60430

799-8182

cc: Rev. Thomas Ventura





## ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

*Office of the Archbishop*

May 27, 1985

Dear Father Burns:

It gives me great pleasure to appoint you as Associate Pastor to the Reverend Norman R. Kunz, Pastor of Saint Ann parish, Lansing, Illinois. This appointment is made following the recommendation of the Clergy Personnel Board.

This appointment is effective June 11, 1985, but I would ask you to make arrangements with Father Kunz about the exact date you will assume your new duties.

I hope that you are renewed as you begin your assignment at Saint Ann parish. I hope that the time you spent on sabbatical leave was enriching and will benefit you as you serve the people of Saint Ann.

Know that as you begin your new assignment you have my support and prayers. I in turn ask for your prayers and support in the work that I am doing.

With cordial good wishes, I remain

Fraternally yours in Christ,

Archbishop of Chicago

Reverend Eugene P. Burns  
1662 West 187th Street  
Homewood, Illinois 60430

cc: Reverend Norman R. Kunz  
Clergy Personnel Board ✓

AOC 009426



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

Office of the Archbishop

September 25 1989

Dear Father Burns:

In light of your request and the endorsement of the Priests' Personnel Board, I hereby grant you permission to accept the position of Chaplaincy of Saint Margaret Hospital, Hammond, Indiana, effective October 1, 1989. This permission is for a three year period and will be subject to renewal, of course.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Bishop Norbert Gaughan, the Bishop of Gary, and will request faculties for you.

Gene, know of my gratitude for all you have done at Saint Ann's Parish. Your presence and effort there has been appreciated by the people as well as the other priests with whom you have worked. I thank you for the witness you have given to the people as you have proclaimed the Gospel and cared for their spiritual needs.

With cordial good wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Joseph Card. Bernardini*  
Archbishop of Chicago

*Kenneth Velo*  
Ecclesiastical Notary

Reverend Eugene P. Burns  
Saint Ann Parish  
3010 Ridge Road  
Lansing, Illinois 60438

cc: Most Reverend [REDACTED]  
Most Reverend Wilton D. Gregory  
Sister Jane Marie Klein, O.S.F., Administrator  
Reverend Norman R. Kunz  
Diocesan Priests' Personnel Board

AOC 009427



**ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO**

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837

Fax: (312) 642-4933

Memo to File (POM)

Re: Gene Burns

5/11/92

At the PRMAA meeting last Tuesday, on May 5, we discussed the request of Gene Burns for early retirement. He is not yet 65 years old. Gene is most probably not enrolled in Social Security. Pat Pollard suggested that Gene is a delicate situation and should be handled delicately. He would suggest that with a doctor's approval, Gene could receive a disability check for \$450 per month and then receive the remainder of his salary until his 65th birthday, so we would be picking up that remainder part only.

At 65 he could retire and receive the \$770 pension. At that time he would also receive from us the equivalent of about \$750 from PRMAA. I will be in touch with Gene.

PRIESTS SPECIAL ACCOUNTS  
PAYROLL AUTHORIZATION

NAME: Reverend Eugene Burns

ADDRESS: 797 Waverly Road

La Porte, Indiana 46350

CITY, STATE, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

SOCIAL SECURITY #: [REDACTED]

MONTHLY SALARY: \$ 816.00 BREAKDOWN, IF APPLICABLE,

EFFECTIVE DATE: 4-1-92 ~~PASTOR~~/ASSOC SALARY \$ 6012

ENDING DATE: 5-31-92  
6-1-92 CAR ALLOWANCE —

EXTEND UNTIL: --- STIPEND ALLOWANCE —

SENIORITY INCREMENT 3780

ACCOUNT NAME: Priests Interim Salaries

ACCOUNT #: #10-100

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: Ordained in 1955

Telephone: 219-362-3970

AUTHORIZED BY: Cardinal Bernardin (per Ken Velo) DATE: May 18, 1992

PLEASE SEND COMPLETED FORM TO:  
CAROL FOWLER, DIRECTOR  
DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL SERVICES FOR PROCESSING

PLEASE EXPLAIN REASON SO WE MAY PROPERLY ASSIGN ACCOUNT NAME AND NUMBER.

Hospital chaplain waiting for appointment with Cardinal to ask for

early retirement. Cardinal approved this.

3/19/92  
mf

✓ cc: Fr. Velo

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Archbishop



Post Office Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

(312) 751-8230  
Fax (312) 337-6379

May 19, 1992

Dear Gene:

It was good to meet with you on May 18th. As I mentioned at our meeting, I am writing to you as a follow-up to our discussion.

We agreed you would retire on June 1, 1992. It is understood that this retirement is early because of your health situation.

Please speak with Monsignor Edward Pellicore of the Priests Retirement Mutual Aid Association regarding your pension benefits and other necessary arrangements. You have indicated, too, that you will be living at your home at: 797 Waverly Road, LaPorte, Indiana 46350. I am forwarding to him a copy of the letter of [REDACTED]

Gene, I wish to thank you for all that you have done through your more than thirty-seven years of priesthood.

Know of my continued prayers, support and encouragement.

With cordial good wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Joseph Card. Bernardin*  
Archbishop of Chicago

Reverend Eugene Burns  
797 Waverly Road  
La Porte, Indiana 46350

cc: Most Reverend Timothy J. Lyne, Episcopal Vicar  
Reverend Msgr. Edward Pellicore  
Reverend Donald J. Ahearn  
Diocesan Priests' Personnel Board

AOC 009430



**ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO**

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837

Fax: (312) 642-4933

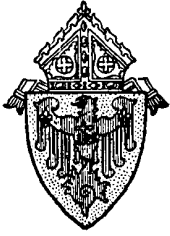
Memo to File (POM)

Re: Gene Burns

5/22/92

I called Fr. Gene Burns at [REDACTED] this morning, May 22, 1992. Gene has just retired from his job at St. Margaret's Hospital in Whiting or Hammond, Indiana. He saw the Cardinal earlier this week and got permission to retire on sick leave.

I then called Don Ahern who will be in touch with Gene to work out the details of the retirement. Gene is a very delicate case because he has certain understandings of what he should be receiving that might not be in concert with the understandings of the PRMAA. Pat Pollard has had difficulties in the past working things out with Gene and has cautioned everyone to be quite careful in setting this up.



**ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO**

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837

Fax: (312) 642-4933

Memo (POM)

To: Mr. Andrew Pollard

Re: Rev. Eugene Burns

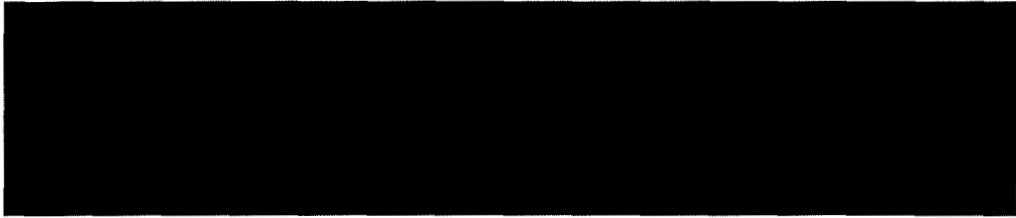
6/3/92

Fr. Burns has received permission from the Cardinal to retire. According to the retirement program, he will receive \$660 per month based on retirement at his present age. At the PRMAA meeting we agreed to supplement that with a grant from the Vicar for Priests' Office to the tune of \$440 per month.

In our discussion of this matter we also agreed that Gene Burns is sometimes a fragile character and that for the good of all, this would be the best way to handle it.

Thank you very much for your attention to this matter.

11.



12.

13. Cardinal's Appointments:

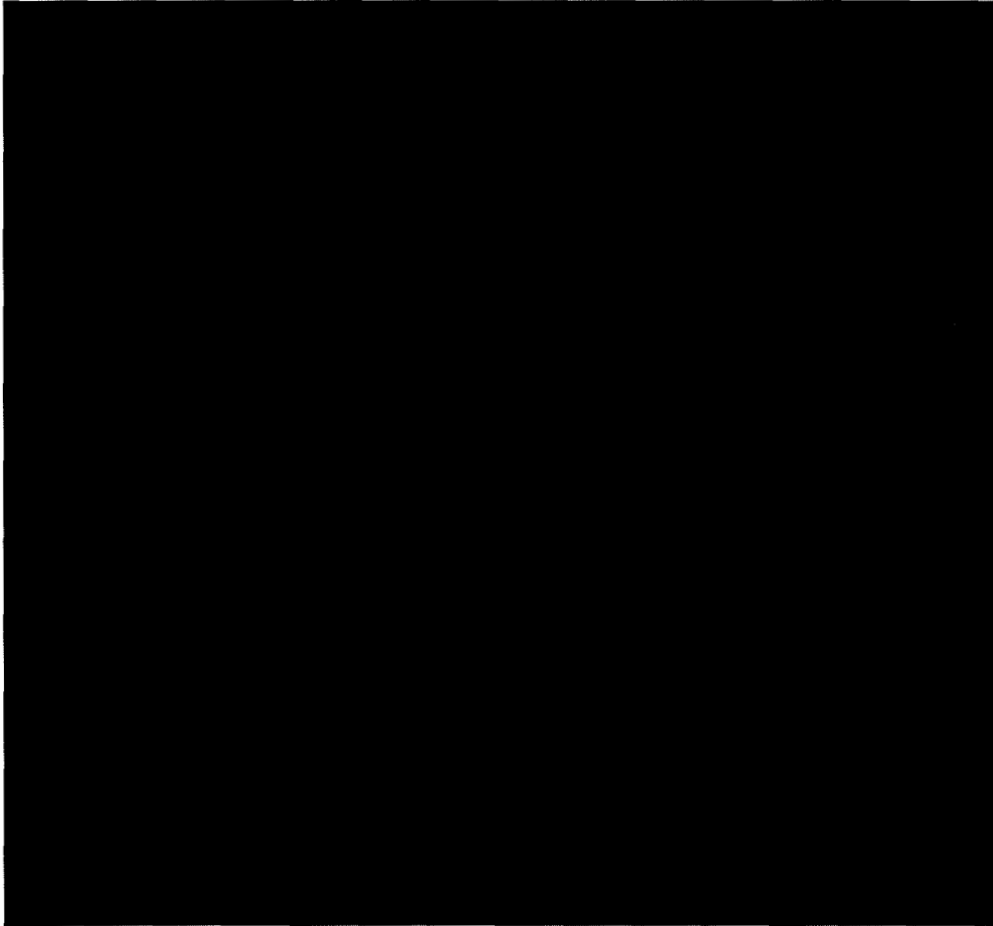
a) Eugene Burns '55: The Cardinal has written Gene regarding his request for early retirement due to Gene's health situation effective 06/01/92.

b)



c)

14.



15.

16.

17.

18.

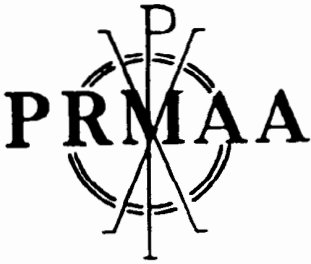
19.

20.

21.



**Priests' Retirement and Mutual Aid Association  
of the Archdiocese of Chicago**



1400 South Wolf Road  
Hillside, Illinois 60162  
708-449-6100

DRAFT

Dear Gene:

Cardinal Bernardin has asked me to confer with you on your letter dated September 8, 1992, requesting financial assistance. As Vicar for Senior Priests, I would gladly represent your needs to the PRMAA Board for consideration.

To adequately represent you I need to know the specifics of your indebtedness and the extent of your assets and income. Please send me a detailed accounting of your financial obligations and copies of your Federal and State income tax returns for the years 1991, 1990, 1989 and 1988. When this material is gathered I would be glad to sit down with you and work out an assistance package.

Until then I hope all is peaceful.

Faternally,

Most Rev. Timothy J. Lyne

AOC 009434

9/9/92

Dear Cardinal Bernardin,

When I visited to you in your Superior St. office in mid-May regarding my retirement, you said to let you know if you could be of help to me. You can - & I desperately need that help. The savings I had are gone with doctor & hospital bills in the past six-to-seven years. When I had to retire I lost over half of my annual income, and I have close to \$27,000. in obligation. I leased a car three years ago, I must return. I have asked G.M. to realize my situation, but it will not. He stress all the causes me in very heavy at times. Once I could have handled this, now I can't. I see no way out. I want you to know I contracted these debts in good faith. Now, they overwhelm me. Would the Archbishop have a source to help me out? You could keep \$500. a month from the \$660. I receive from Actra. When I am physically able, I'll help out in local parish. Right now - I cannot.

Please advise, & realize for any insight you can give me, I will be most grateful.

Sincerely,

(Rev). Eugene P. Burns

797 Waverly Rd.  
La Porte, Ind. 46350

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

---

Administrative Assistant  
to the Cardinal



Post Office Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

(312) 751-8219  
Fax (312) 337-6379

**CONFIDENTIAL**

MEMORANDUM

TO: Father Pollard  
FROM: Father Velo *KV*  
DATE: September 17, 1992  
RE: Attached letter from Eugene Burns

---

Pat,

Please call me at your earliest convenience regarding  
the attached letter from Eugene Burns.

Thanks.

Attachment

AOC 009436

OCT 05 RECD

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Archbishop



Post Office Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

September 29, 1992

Dear Gene:

I have received your recent letter regarding some financial concerns you have. At the present time matters like this are routinely given to the Office of the Vicar for Senior Priests, which was set up many years ago for exactly the purpose you mentioned.

Bishop Timothy Lyne, the Vicar for Senior Priests, will be contacting you in the very near future to discuss your situation further.

I trust your understanding and hope this will be helpful to you.

With cordial good wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Joseph Card. Bernardini*  
Archbishop of Chicago

Reverend Eugene P. Burns  
797 Waverly Road  
La Porte, Indiana 46350

cc: Most Reverend Timothy J. Lyne

bc: Reverend Msgr. James Hardiman  
Reverend Patrick Pollard ✓

AOC 009437

I acknowledge that I have read and am familiar with the Archdiocesan policies regarding sexual misconduct with minors, adopted September 21, 1992.

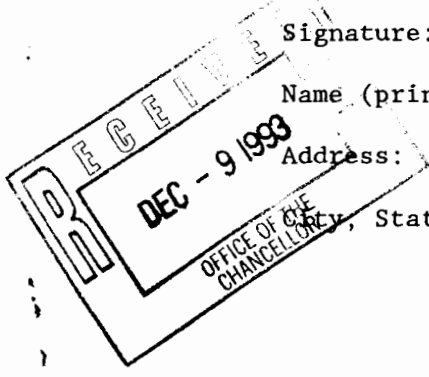
\_\_\_\_\_ Please send me a copy of these policies and procedures.

Signature: Rev. Eugene P. Burns

Name (printed): EUGENE P. BURNS

Address: 797 WAVERLY RD.

City, State, Zip: LAFORTE, IN. 46350



BP. LYNE DETTMER

to W. J. J.  
Date 7/19/95 Time 7:21  A.M.  P.M.  
**WHILE YOU WERE OUT**  
of W. Alfred Dettmer  
of Mich. City Ind.  
Phone [REDACTED]  
Area Code [REDACTED] Number [REDACTED] Extension [REDACTED]

TELEPHONED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PLEASE CALL	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALLED TO SEE YOU	<input type="checkbox"/>	WILL CALL AGAIN	<input type="checkbox"/>
WANTS TO SEE YOU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>URGENT</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
RETURNED YOUR CALL	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Message Re. Fr. Eugene Dumas  
Living in home health  
care situation. Complaint  
is that he is getting hard  
to handle, mostly because  
of a [REDACTED] problem.  
Operator [REDACTED]

110P  
161P

7/20/95

Bp. Lyne OOT until next wk. Called Fr. Pollard & he referred me to Fr. Joe Bennett & Fr. Len Clecki & they keep in touch w/ Fr. Dumas. I spoke w/ Fr. Bennett and he will return call to Fr. Dettmer.

Rev. Eugene Burns

**Diocesan Priests' File Checklist**

- Acknowledgement of Misconduct Policies, dated
- Curriculum Vitae, dated
- Last Will & Testament, dated
- Personal Inventory, dated
- Photo (for assignment card)

Please list any other important documents that

12/15/85 + 12/18/87

12/9/83

**BR LYNE DETTNER**

W.L.T.T.P.  
 Date 7/19/92 Time 7:21  AM  PM

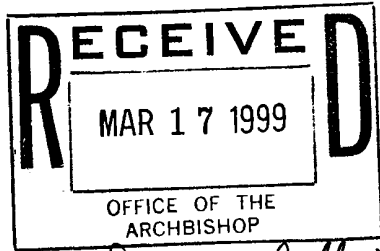
**WHILE YOU WERE OUT**  
 N. Alfred Dettner  
 of Mich. City, Ind.  
 Phone [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]  
 Area Number Extension

TELEPHONED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PLEASE CALL	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALLED TO SEE YOU	<input type="checkbox"/>	WILL CALL AGAIN	<input type="checkbox"/>
WANTS TO SEE YOU	<input type="checkbox"/>	URGENT	<input type="checkbox"/>
RETURNED YOUR CALL	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

Message Re. Fr. Eugene Burns  
Living in some health  
care situation. Complaint  
is that he is getting hard  
to handle, mostly because  
of a [redacted] problem.  
 Operator [redacted]

HOP 161P

10/14/99



Request to be  
excused from saying  
Mass due to  
fading eyesight

797 Waverly Rd.  
La Porte, In. 46350

March 16, 1999

To Bishop - In reply to letter & desire -  
Substitute a Mass? P.

Dear Cardinal George -

My name is Father Eugene Burns,  
ordained in 1955 at Mendota, and now  
retired at my La Porte, Indiana home. I'm  
saying Mass on Saturday P.M. for the Franciscan  
Brothers of Christ the King who recently established  
a residence here. On Sunday, I take an AM  
Mass at St. Mary Church in Otis, Ind., two miles  
South of Michigan City. It is great for me to  
be able to continue my priestly mission.

I have had recent problems with my  
vision, & saw an eye specialist in  
town, & got a second opinion at Rush Pres.  
in Chicago. Both concurred



I am  
having difficulty reading the Divine Office as  
the print blurs. I am requesting permission  
to be exempt from the obligation of saying  
this daily prayer. Can you help me out?

God Bless you, your ministers, and the  
great people you Shepherd.

Rev. Eugene P. Burns



# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

ANITA BAIRD, D.H.M.  
Executive Assistant to the Cardinal



Post Office Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979  
(312) 751-8236  
Fax: (312) 337-6379

March 18, 1999

Dear Father Burns,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter of March 16, 1999  
to His Eminence, Francis Cardinal George.

Thank you for writing. A reply is forthcoming.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anita Baird".

Sister Anita Baird, D.H.M.  
Executive Assistant to  
Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.  
Archbishop of Chicago

Reverend Eugene P. Burns  
797 Waverly Road  
LaPorte, Indiana 46350

AOC 009442

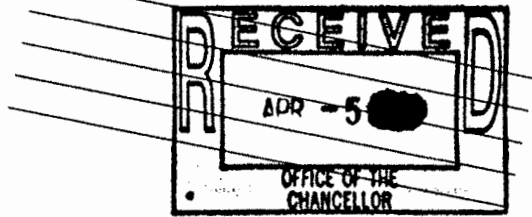
MEMO from the office of:

CARDINAL GEORGE

To: Fr Papadaki Date: 4/1

- For:  Information
- Comment by MEMO
- Approval
- Signature
- Draft reply for my signature (return original correspondence and this form)
- Reply in your own name (return copy of response with this form)
- Per conversation
- Circulate

Remarks:





Memo From  
Reverend Thomas J. Paprocki

To: F. Laudis Date: 4/15/99

- For:  Information
- Comment
- Approval
- Signature
- Please draft a reply for Cardinal's signature
- Please draft a reply for my signature
- Please reply in your own name
- Please return
- Please handle
- Per conversation

Remarks: Grant dispensation from  
Divine Office due to eye problems;  
substitute a rosary.  
TPP

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Archbishop



Post Office Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

(312) 751-8230  
Fax (312) 337-6379

May 4, 1999

Rev. Eugene Burns  
797 Waverly Road  
La Porte, IN 46350

Dear Father Burns:

In reply to your request regarding a dispensation from the obligation to recite the Breviary, I am happy to grant such a dispensation, due to your problems of eyesight.

In place of the daily recitation of the Divine Office, you are to substitute the daily recitation of five decades of the Rosary.

I am sorry to learn of your difficulties in reading. I know that it would be a real hardship for me if I had to curtail all the reading I do. But I am pleased to hear that you are able to help at a local parish and continue some degree of priestly ministry.

With my prayers for you and with all best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

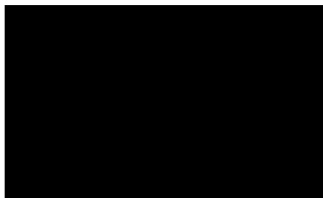
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Francis Cardinal George".

Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.  
Archbishop of Chicago

PRIESTS' FILES

AOC 009445

*New*



**RECEIVED**

**APR 28 2004**

CATHOLIC BISHOP OF CHICAGO  
OFFICE OF LEGAL SERVICES

April 23, 2004

James Scritella  
Burke, Warren, MacKay & Scritella  
22<sup>nd</sup> Floor, IBM Plaza  
330 North Wabash Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60611-3607

John C. O'Malley  
Archdiocese of Chicago  
155 East Superior Street  
P.O. Box 1979  
Chicago, IL 60690

**RECEIVED**

**APR 29 2004**

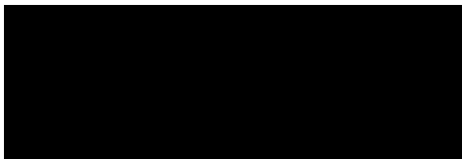
ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO  
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

RE: [redacted] v. Archdiocese of Chicago

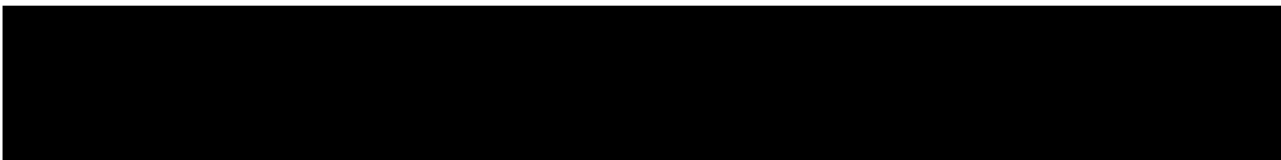
Dear Counsel:

This is to advise you that we represent the interests of [redacted] in a claim against the Archdiocese of Chicago and Fr. Eugene Burns for misconduct while that priest was serving in and for the Archdiocese of Chicago. Please forward a proposed Tolling Agreement so that this matter can be brought into ADR. Thank you.

Very truly yours,



cc: [redacted]



# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of Professional Responsibility



P.O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

(312) 751-5205  
Fax: (312) 751-5279

## MEMORANDUM

TO: ✓ Ralph Bonaccorsi, Assistance Ministry  
✓ Rev. James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests  
Jimmy Lago, Chancellor  
Leah McCluskey, Office of Professional Responsibility  
John O'Malley, Legal Services  
Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Archbishop's Delegate to the Review Board  
Rev. Thomas Tivy, Vicar for Priests

FROM: Laura Neri-Palomino, Administrative Assistant<sup>LNP</sup>  
Office of Professional Responsibility

DATE: April 28, 2004

RE: [PFR-245] Burns, Eugene P. (Retired)/ [REDACTED]

A new allegation was received by this office on 4/28/04. We are opening a file and Leah McCluskey, Professional Responsibility Administrator will begin the Review Process by attempting to arrange an interview with [REDACTED]. Please advise this office of any information you may have in your files regarding Burns, Eugene P. [REDACTED]

It is extremely important that you forward copies of any and all documentation pertinent to this case to this office within 5 business days of receipt of this memo to ensure that the investigation of this matter be properly handled.

Thank you.

cc: Most Rev. Edwin M. Conway

AOC 009447

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of Legal Services

John C. O'Malley  
Director



Post Office Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

Tel: (312) 751-5379  
Fax: (312) 751-5252  
e-mail: jomalley@archchicago.org

May 5, 2004

## PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Michael J. Howlett, Jr.  
Counsel to the State's Attorney  
Richard J. Daley Center  
69 West Washington Street, 32<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Chicago, Illinois 60602

RE: [REDACTED]

Date of Birth: Unknown

Date of alleged abuse: Unknown

Dear Mr. Howlett:

Please be advised the Archdiocese of Chicago has received a claim from attorney [REDACTED] on behalf of [REDACTED] current age unknown, that an archdiocesan priest, Rev. Eugene Burns, sexually abused her as a minor. Fr. Burns is a retired priest. There is no other information available at this time.

If our office can provide any additional information, or be of any further help, please let me know.

Very truly yours,

Handwritten signature of John C. O'Malley in cursive.  
John C. O'Malley  
Director of Legal Services

JCOM:sm

cc: Ms. Shauna Boliker -  
Ms. Leah Mc Cluskey  
[REDACTED]

**COPY**

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

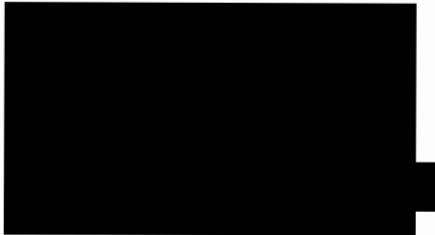
Office of Professional Responsibility



P.O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

(312) 751-5205  
Fax: (312) 751-5279

June 10, 2004



Dear Ms. [REDACTED]

I hope that this letter finds you doing well.

Enclosed you will find a draft report of your allegation of sexual misconduct against Rev. Eugene Patrick Burns. The report is based upon our meeting that took place on May 10, 2004.

I ask that you review the report and make any changes necessary to ensure its accuracy. Please return the draft to me with any changes in the envelope provided. I will then return a final report to you for your signature. Once all signatures are provided, a copy of the final report will be forwarded to you and to Mr. [REDACTED]

Ms. [REDACTED] in the interest of expediting this process, I ask that you return the enclosed report with your changes by June 24, 2004. Please know that you may also respond by June 24<sup>th</sup> with a written request for a two-week extension to review the report, which then I would ask that you return it to me by July 8, 2004. In the event that I do not receive a response from you by June 24<sup>th</sup>, I will assume that the draft report is accurate and I will proceed forward with this matter.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [312] 751-5205.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leah McCluskey".

Leah McCluskey  
Professional Responsibility Administrator

Enclosure

AOC 009449



TRANSMISSION VERIFICATION REPORT

TIME : 06/10/2004 00:38  
NAME : PROFESSIONAL FITNESS  
FAX : 312-7515279  
TEL : 312-7515206  
SER. # : BROM2J864224

DATE, TIME 06/10 00:36  
FAX NO./NAME 92614565  
DURATION 00:01:56  
PAGE(S) 11  
RESULT OK  
MODE STANDARD  
ECM

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of Professional Responsibility  
676 N. St. Clair, Suite 1910  
Chicago, IL 60611



(312)751-5205  
1-800-994-6200  
Fax (312)751-5279

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: [REDACTED] FROM: Leah McCluskey  
DATE: 6/10/04  
FAX NUMBER: [REDACTED] TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: 11  
PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED] PHONE NUMBER: 312-751-5205  
RE: Burns, Rev. Eugene Patrick/  
[REDACTED]

- COPY
- PLEASE REVIEW
- PLEASE COMMENT
- PLEASE CONFIRM
- SEE ATTACHED
- PLEASE PROVIDE
- FOR YOUR INFORMATION
- PLEASE SIGN & RETURN

[REDACTED]  
Leah asked that I fax you a copy of [REDACTED] draft report from her May 10, 2004 meeting with Leah McCluskey. I am sending the original via mail today.

If you have any questions please contact Leah at 312-751-5205.

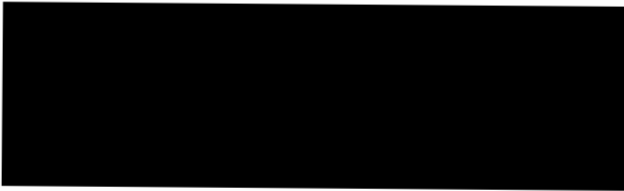
BURKE, WARREN, MACKAY & SERRITELLA, P.C.

22ND FLOOR IBM PLAZA  
330 NORTH WABASH AVENUE  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611-3607  
TELEPHONE (312) 840-7000  
FACSIMILE (312) 840-7900  
www.burkelaw.com

JAMES A. SERRITELLA  
DIRECT DIAL NUMBER  
(312) 840-7040  
jserritella@burkelaw.com

June 16, 2004

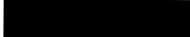
VIA FACSIMILE & U.S. MAIL



RECEIVED

JUN 17 2004

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO  
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

Re:  Father Eugene Burns

Dear Mr. 

I am following up on your letter of April 23, 2004 regarding the above matter. I have passed your correspondence on to Ms. Leah McCluskey, the Professional Responsibility Administrator of the Archdiocese of Chicago. It is my understanding that someone from her office has been or will be in contact with you about this matter. As you know, either you or your client can contact Mr. Ralph Bonaccorsi (312-751-8267), Assistance Minister of the Archdiocese, for therapy from a licensed therapist.

Please direct your communications about this matter to the undersigned.

Very truly yours,

James A. Serritella

lj

Enc.

cc: Leah McCluskey (via facsimile)  
Ralph Bonaccorsi (via facsimile)

6/16/2004/11:37 AM/09891/00471/318549/1

AOC 009451



June 21, 2004

Archdiocese of Chicago  
Office of Professional Responsibility  
P.O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

**RECEIVED**  
JUN 28 2004  
ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO  
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

Attn: Leah McCluskey

Dear Ms. McCluskey:

As per your letter dated June 17, 2004, this letter is to serve as my written request for a two-week extension in order to review the draft report of my allegation of sexual misconduct against Rev. Burns.

I understand that this extension allows me until July 8, 2004 to return the report with my changes in order to ensure its accuracy. I will have it to you by that date.

Please note the above change of address, which is effective June 28, 2004. Please edit your records to reflect this change and make sure any future correspondences are sent to that address. Thank you.



CC



### Victim Statement Abstract

This abstract replaces the Allegations of Sexual Misconduct and summary prepared by Leah McCluskey, Professional Responsibility Administrator for the Archdiocese of Chicago's Office of Professional Fitness Review, of Victim KQ's statement, given to Ms. McCluskey on May 10, 2004, formalizing her allegation of abuse against Fr. Eugene Burns. According to Victim KQ's statement, she met Burns when she was about 8 years old and the abuse continued for several years. Victim KQ stated that she visited the Archdiocese Pastoral Center in 1992 to report the abuse, but Victim KQ was asked to leave by the receptionist.

**From:** Leah McCluskey  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Date:** 7/12/04 1:04PM  
**Subject:** Re: Corrections

[REDACTED]

Yes, your corrections are clear. Thank you so much.

Leah

>>> [REDACTED] 07/12/04 12:10PM >>>

Leah,

It may be obvious, but I failed to mention in my e-mail with the draft attached, that my changes are in bold italics, with brackets at either end of them. Hope that is clear. Thank you. [REDACTED]

**From:** Leah McCluskey  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Date:** 7/12/04 1:03PM  
**Subject:** Re: Revisions on report

[REDACTED]

I am writing to confirm that I did receive your e-mails and corrections. Thank you so much for sending them.

[REDACTED]

Thank you again [REDACTED] for all that you have shared. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Leah

Leah McCluskey, MSW, LSW  
Professional Responsibility Administrator  
Archdiocese of Chicago  
Office of Professional Responsibility  
676 N. St. Clair, Suite 1910  
Chicago, Illinois 60611  
Office: 312.751.5205  
Fax: 312.751.5279  
lmcccluskey@archchicago.org

>>> [REDACTED] 07/12/04 11:55AM >>>

Leah,  
Can you please confirm receipt of this via e-mail? [REDACTED]  
it since during this move, I have had trouble with [REDACTED]  
and internet services and want to be sure you get the [REDACTED]  
It is my understanding that you will make changes, then send the report  
back to me for final approval, at which point, I will get the report  
back to you right away. Please confirm.  
I am quite anxious about this whole procedure, as you can probably  
imagine. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Victim Statement Abstract

This abstract accompanies the redacted email correspondence between Victim KQ and Leah McCluskey, Professional Responsibility Administrator for the Archdiocese of Chicago's Office of Professional Fitness Review, dated July 2, 2004. Victim KQ attached a revised copy of her statement of the alleged abuse by Fr. Eugene Burns and sought information about the process of formalizing her allegation.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

**COPY**

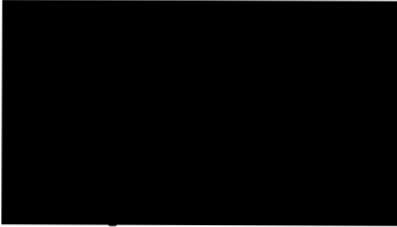
Office of Professional Responsibility



P.O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

(312) 751-5205  
Fax: (312) 751-5279

July 20, 2004



Dear Ms. [REDACTED],

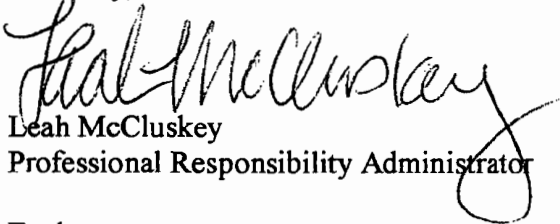
Enclosed you will find a final report of your allegation of sexual misconduct against Rev. Eugene Patrick Burns. The report is based upon your revisions you returned to me. Thank you so much for your additions and changes.

Upon your review of the report, please provide your signature and date and return the document in the envelope provided.

Ms. [REDACTED], in the interest of continuing to expedite this process, I ask that you return the enclosed report to me by August 3, 2004. In the event that I do not receive any response from you by August 3<sup>rd</sup>, I will assume that the final report is accurate and I will proceed forward with this matter.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [312] 751-5205.

Sincerely,

  
Leah McCluskey  
Professional Responsibility Administrator

Enclosure



**From:** Leah McCluskey  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Date:** 7/21/04 9:14AM  
**Subject:** Fwd: [REDACTED] Letter & Report

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I have attached a copy of the report based upon your changes. Hard copies have been forwarded to [REDACTED] office.

If you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call or e-mail.

Take care,

Leah

Leah McCluskey, MSW, LSW  
Professional Responsibility Administrator  
Archdiocese of Chicago  
Office of Professional Responsibility  
676 N. St. Clair, Suite 1910  
Chicago, Illinois 60611  
Office: 312.751.5205  
Fax: 312.751.5279  
lmclluskey@archchicago.org

RECEIVED

AUG 03 2004

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO  
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

# Fax PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

To: Leah McCluskey

From: [REDACTED]

Fax: 312.751.5279

Pages:

Phone:

Date: 8/3/04

Re: Final revisions of initial draft.

Urgent     For Review     Please Comment     Please Reply     Please Recycle

● **Comments:**

Leah (or Laura)

Attached, please find the final draft of my revisions of the initial report. Please confirm receipt of this since there seems to have been some difficulty in you getting my last communications. You can either leave me a voicemail at [REDACTED] or you can e-mail me at [REDACTED]

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

**COPY**

Office of Professional Responsibility



P.O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

(312) 751-5205  
Fax: (312) 751-5279

January 6, 2005



Dear Ms. [REDACTED]

Enclosed you will find a finalized copy of your report with all of the necessary signatures. A copy of the report is also enclosed for your attorney.

If you have any questions please contact Leah McCluskey at 312-751-5205.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laura A. Neri-Palomino".

Laura A. Neri-Palomino  
Administrative Assistant

Enclosures

AOC 009460

Memo: To Kaz  
From: Ed  
Re: Gene Burns

EG

January 12, 2005

[REDACTED] friend of Gene Burns, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] called.

He received a couple of calls from a hospice lady re: Gene. Gene has apparently been upset and distraught and mentioning a young girl [REDACTED]. He apparently was aware of your trip to Holy Family.

[REDACTED] was concerned. He is a friend of Gene's. He pointed out that Gene drifts in and out. He rambles and he is not really competent.

He deduced that an allegation had been made. He is concerned that Gene, in his declining years was about to be "put out on the street".

I assured him that Gene was not about to be put out on the street. We were just sharing information with Gene in accord with our own internal processes.

[REDACTED] was not difficult. He was happy with the way Gene was being treated by the diocese through out the course of his illness. At any rate, [REDACTED] would like you to call him.

[REDACTED]

## Archdiocese of Chicago Priest Vitae Card

Eugene Patrick Burns Born: [REDACTED] Ordained: 05/03/1955 Died: 01/14/2005 Ethnicity:

---

No Image  
Attached

Assignment	Position	Begin Date	End Date
St. Anne Parish (Hazel Crest)	Assistant Pastor	07/07/1955	07/05/1961
St. Catherine Laboure Parish (Glenview)	Assistant Pastor	07/05/1961	05/16/1966
St. Nicholas of Tolentine Parish (62nd St.)	Assistant Pastor	05/16/1966	06/10/1968
St. Denis Parish (St. Louis Ave.)	Associate Pastor	06/10/1968	06/11/1973
St. Joseph Parish (Homewood)	Associate Pastor	06/11/1973	06/11/1979
St. Terrence Parish (Alsip)	Associate Pastor	06/11/1979	02/01/1981
Our Lady of Knock Parish (Calumet City)	Associate Pastor	02/01/1981	08/01/1981
Queen of Apostles Parish (Riverdale)	Pastor	08/01/1981	12/19/1983
	Sabbatical	12/19/1983	01/01/1985
St. Ann Parish (Lansing)	Associate Pastor	06/11/1985	10/01/1989
St. Margaret Hospital (Hammond, IN)	Chaplain	10/01/1989	06/01/1992
	Retired	06/01/1992	01/14/2005

---

**Extraordinary  
Appointments:**

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Vicar General



Post Office Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

(312) 751-8271  
Fax: (312) 337-6379

---

## MEMORANDUM

---

Date: January 18, 2005

To: Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.  
Auxiliary Bishops  
Chancellor  
Communications

From: Rev. George Rassas

Re: Death of Rev. Eugene P. Burns

---

Rev. Eugene P. Burns, Class of 1955, died Friday, January 14, 2005 of congestive heart failure. Father Burns was living at Holy Family Villa in Lemont at the time of his death. A sister-in-law, nieces and nephews survive Father Burns.

There is no visitation. Father Burns' wishes were that his body be cremated and the cremains interred at [REDACTED]

A Memorial Mass is planned for  
Friday, February 11, 11:00AM  
St. Anne Church  
16802 S. Lincoln St.  
Hazel Crest, IL

Bishop Jakubowski will be the main celebrant. If you pan to concelebrate, please bring your funeral vestments, and advise Rev. Len Dubi at St. Anne Church, (708) 335-3221.

AOC 009463

# Death Announcements

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- ▶ [Obituaries](#)

Archdiocese of Chicago | Obituaries

## **FORMER PASTOR OF RIVERDALE PARISH, FR. EUGENE P. BURNS, DIES**

CHICAGO (January 19, 2005) – Fr. Eugene Patrick Burns died of congestive heart failure Friday.

January 14, at Holy Family Villa in Lemont. He served as pastor of Queen of the Apostles Parish in Riverdale from 1981 to 1983. He was 76 years old.

Fr. Burns most recent assignment was chaplain at St. Margaret Hospital in Hammond, Indiana. He served there for three years beginning in 1989 before retiring from active ministry in 1992.

Born in Chicago, Fr. Burns was a member of St. Rita of Cascia Parish. He attended Quigley Preparatory Seminary and the University of St. Mary of the Lake Seminary in Mundelein. Ordained in 1955, Fr. Burns served for six years as assistant pastor at St. Anne Parish in Hazel Crest, where a memorial Mass will be celebrated for him.

He also served as assistant pastor at St. Catherine Laboure in Glenview (1961-1966), St. Nicolas of Tolentine (1966-1968), St. Denis (1968-1973), St. Joseph in Homewood (1973-1979), St. Terrence in Alsip (1979-1981), Our Lady of Knock in Calumet City (1981-1983), and St. Ann in Lansing (1985-1989).

"He did creative things in his parish ministry," said Fr. Len Dubi, pastor of St. Anne in Hazel Crest, who also served with Fr. Burns at Queen of Apostles. While at St. Catherine Laboure he was the first priest to start the popular "Ports of Call" fundraiser that transformed parish schools into nightclubs, where acts performed and parishioners enjoyed food and games as a means of raising additional funds for the parish.

Fr. Dubi commented that Fr. Burns was in the forefront of promoting peace and was one of the first to establish open discussion on the peace documents from the Second Vatican Council. He also introduced the program "Christ Renews His Parish" at Queen of Apostles Parish.

As a [REDACTED] Fr. Burns was a mentor and friend to many who sought his counsel in dealing with alcohol addiction.

Most Reverend Thad Jakubowski, retired auxiliary bishop of Chicago, will be the main celebrant at a memorial Mass for Fr. Burns on Friday, February 11, at 11 a.m. at St. Anne Church, 16802, S. Lincoln St., Hazel Crest. Interment has taken place at Holy Sepulcher Cemetery in Alsip.

Fr. Burns is survived by a sister-in-law and several nieces and nephews.

[Return to Top](#)

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

**COPY**



P.O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979


(312) 751-5205  
Fax: (312) 751-5279

of an original document from the  
**OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO**

This is a red ink stamp!  
DO NOT COPY

**MEMORANDUM**

To: File – PFR-245

From: Leah McCluskey, Professional Responsibility Administrator 

Re: **REV. EUGENE BURNS' [DECEASED] RESPONSE TO ALLEGATION OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT AGAINST MADE BY [REDACTED]**

Date: February 2, 2005

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**Date of Meeting: January 6, 2005**                      **Time of Meeting: 10:00am**

**Present at Meeting**

- Rev. Eugene Burns
- Rev. Leonard Dubi, friend of Fr. Burns
- Rev. Joseph Bennett, friend of Fr. Burns
- Ms. Leah McCluskey, Professional Responsibility
- Rev. James T. Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests

**Face-to-Face Meeting**

Rev. James T. Kaczorowski and PRA traveled to Holy Family Villa to meet with Rev. Eugene Burns. Fr. Burns had recently been moved to the nursing facility as a result of his ailing health. Revs. Leonard Dubi and Joseph Bennett were also present as support to Fr. Burns. Frs. Kaczorowski and Bennett arranged the meeting date and place, as all involved parties were to be at Holy Family Villa that day for another appointment. Fr. Kaczorowski and PRA met with Fr. Bennett and Rev. Leonard Dubi in an unoccupied room in the nursing facility.

The meeting was to begin at 11:00am and Fr. Kaczorowski and PRA went into Fr. Burns' room, where Frs. Dubi and Bennett were already with him [Fr. Burns]. Fr. Burns was lying in his hospital bed and had difficulty hearing as a result of his hearing aids being broken. PRA had to stand right next to Fr. Burns' bed and speak directly into his ear to introduce herself.

Prior to meeting with Fr. Burns to read the allegation, Frs. Kaczorowski, Dubi, Bennett, and PRA met outside of Fr. Burns' room. PRA asked Frs. Dubi and Bennett if Fr. Burns could actually read the report, to which they stated that Fr. Burns could not see as a result of macular degeneration. Fr. Dubi also noted that Fr. Burns does not have use of his hearing aids, as both



were broken at the time. He stated that Fr. Burns was better able to hear a man's voice due to the lower register of a male voice in comparison to a female voice. After discussion among Frs. Dubi, Burns, Kaczorowski, and PRA it was agreed that the allegation needed to be read to Fr. Burns that day. During the discussion, Fr. Dubi clarified for Fr. Kaczorowski that Fr. Burns was asked to leave the priesthood in the early 1990s as a result of his [REDACTED]. As a result of the discussion, it was also agreed that Fr. Kaczorowski would begin by speaking to Fr. Burns about the role and function of the Vicar for Priests office and the Office of Professional Responsibility. Due to Fr. Burns' difficulty with hearing, it was agreed that Fr. Kaczorowski would read the allegation to him.

At approximately 11:50am, Frs. Dubi, Bennett, Kaczorowski, and PRA returned to Fr. Burns' room. The extended delay in meeting with Fr. Burns was the result of the presence of a unit social worker [to address the issue of repairing his hearing aids] and then the presence of two nurses. The nurses assisted Fr. Burns with moving in his bed to a more comfortable position. Fr. Burns was then given Vicadin as a result of his expression of pain that he was experiencing.

PRA sat next to Fr. Burns' bed and took notes as Fr. Kaczorowski stood next to the cleric's bed and began to talk to him. [REDACTED] had also taken seats in Fr. Burns' room. Fr. Kaczorowski then asked Fr. Burns if he remembered [REDACTED]. Fr. Burns responded by stating that he did remember [REDACTED] and her family. Fr. Kaczorowski then informed Fr. Burns that [REDACTED] brought forward an allegation of sexual abuse against him. Throughout the meeting, Fr. Kaczorowski would have to repeat what Fr. Burns was saying, as no one else in the small room could hear him. When Fr. Kaczorowski spoke of the abuse alleged by [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Fr. Burns replied something similar to, "That's not true...I was only good to them."

Fr. Kaczorowski asked Fr. Burns to listen as he read the allegation made by [REDACTED]. He also advised Fr. Burns to state [at the conclusion of listening to the allegation] that he did not abuse [REDACTED] if that were the case.

Fr. Kaczorowski then began to read [REDACTED] allegation of sexual abuse by Fr. Burns. As Fr. Kaczorowski read the report, Fr. Burns agreed to being assigned to St. Catherine Laboure and to being friends with the [REDACTED]. When Fr. Kaczorowski had reached page four of the allegation where [REDACTED] spoke of Fr. Burns coming to her family's home [REDACTED] Fr. Burns indicated to Fr. Kaczorowski that he could not hear him. Fr. Kaczorowski then walked to the other side of Fr. Burns' hospital bed and read close to his other ear [left].

While Fr. Kaczorowski was reading from page five of the allegation where [REDACTED] spoke of [REDACTED]. Fr. Burns responded, "...I'm amazed [with the allegations made by [REDACTED]]." As Fr. Kaczorowski read of [REDACTED] recollection of traveling to Fr. Burns' [REDACTED] Fr. Dubi clarified that the home was located in [REDACTED].

As Fr. Kaczorowski read from page six of [REDACTED] allegation where she spoke of her [REDACTED] Fr. Burns stopped him and stated, "...this is all lies...I don't know where this came from...you think you're good to people..." Fr. Burns then asked Fr. Kaczorowski, "What's the bottom line [in regards to [REDACTED] allegation]?" Fr. Kaczorowski responded by informing Fr. Burns that he was only halfway finished with reading the allegation. Fr. Burns then remarked that he "...couldn't believe it [REDACTED] allegation against him]..."

Fr. Burns stopped Fr. Kaczorowski again as he was reading from page six of the allegation where [REDACTED] He stated, "I've heard enough...it's a big lie...I was very good to all of them [REDACTED]...[I have] no apologies." Fr. Burns stopped Fr. Kaczorowski again as he read about [REDACTED] recorded on page eight. He said to Fr. Kaczorowski, "...all this shit...I don't want to listen to this...I'm not guilty...it's her interpretation..."

PRA noted that throughout the time that Fr. Kaczorowski read the allegation to Fr. Burns, his eyes would open and closed periodically. As a result, Fr. Kaczorowski said Fr. Burns' name at times throughout the meeting to ensure that he was aware of what was being read to him.

As Fr. Kaczorowski read of [REDACTED] he [Fr. Kaczorowski] asked Fr. Burns his recollection. Fr. Burns stated that he remembers [REDACTED]

After Fr. Kaczorowski read [REDACTED] recollection of the situation involving Fr. Burns' [REDACTED] [page nine], Fr. Burns remarked, "...I never touched her in my life."

Once Fr. Kaczorowski concluded reading [REDACTED] allegation against Fr. Burns, the cleric provided some responses. Fr. Burns stated, "...[the allegation is] not true, not so...I'm tired...I'm stunned...of all people..." He also mentioned [REDACTED] Fr. Burns continued, "...I'm stunned...I never would have dreamt..." He also spoke of going to the country [REDACTED] for cookouts.

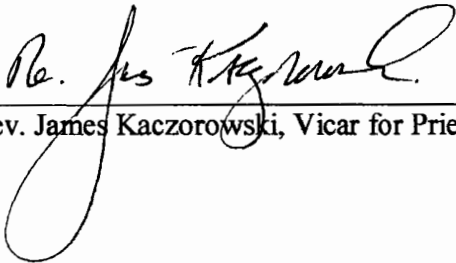
Fr. Burns then described [REDACTED] as "a troubled girl." When asked for clarification by Fr. Kaczorowski, Fr. Burns replied, "[she's] just troubled..." Fr. Burns' last statement to Fr. Kaczorowski was that he could not have abused [REDACTED] as she described because he is homosexual.

PRA and Fr. Kaczorowski thanked Fr. Burns for his time and for his responses to [REDACTED] allegations.

PRA was unable to return this draft to Fr. Burns for his corrections/approval due to the fact that he passed away on Friday, January 14, 2005.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Leah McCluskey, Administrator

2/4/05  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rev. James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests

2-8-05  
Date

Cc: Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board  
Rev. James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests

Victim Statement Abstract

This abstract accompanies the redacted summary prepared by Leah McCluskey, Professional Responsibility Administrator for the Archdiocese of Chicago's Office of Professional Fitness Review, or former Rev. Eugene Burns's response to Victim KQ's allegation of abuse, given to Ms. McCluskey on January 6, 2005. Burns denied that he had engaged in inappropriate conduct with Victim KQ.

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Office of Professional Responsibility



P.O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

(312) 751-5205  
Fax: (312) 751-5279

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Rev. James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests  
From: Laura A. Neri-Palomino *LNF*  
Re: Burns, Eugene (Deceased) [REDACTED]  
Date: February 7, 2005

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Please sign the attached Response to allegation in reference to the above matter and return to this office ASAP. A copy will be provided for your office.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Attachment

AOC 009470

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

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**Professional Responsibility Review Board**  
**Saturday, March 19, 2005 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

## MINUTES

### Review Board Members Present:

[REDACTED]

### Members absent:

[REDACTED]

### Non-members present:

Leah McCluskey, Professional Responsibility Administrator [PRA]   
Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board

- I. Approval of Minutes – February 12, 2005
- Unanimously approved [8-0]

## II. Case Reviews

### Initial Review

#### A. In the Matter of Rev. Eugene Burns [Deceased 2005] - PFR - 170

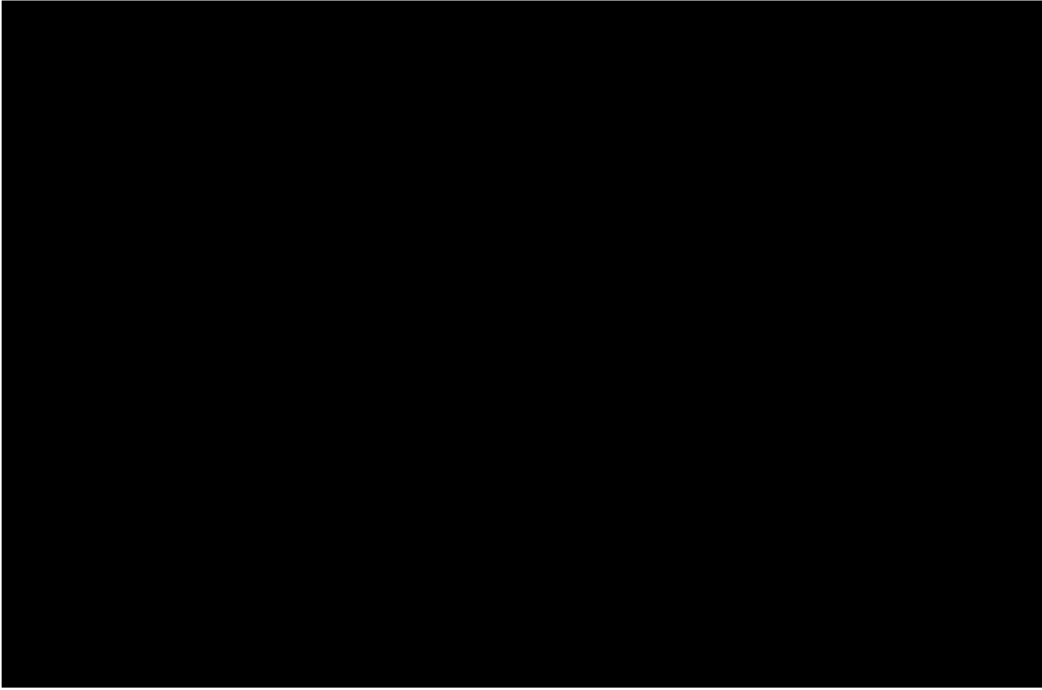
The Review Board conducted an Initial Review regarding the allegation made by [REDACTED]

The claim is as follows: fondling, penetration; [REDACTED]

In a 8-0 vote in light of the information presented, the Board determined that this matter warrants additional investigation. The Board also requested that PRA complete the following tasks:

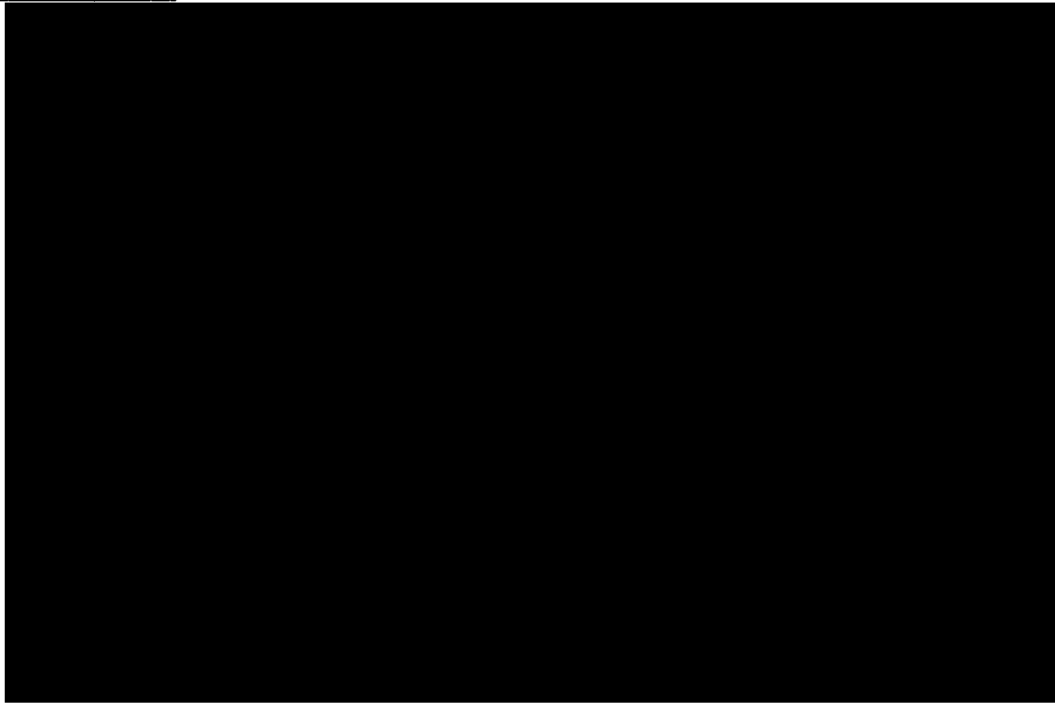
- To attempt to obtain a [REDACTED]
- To request to speak with any/all of Ms. [REDACTED] family members and ask their recollection of Fr. Burns' presence at the family home when they were minors.
- To request to speak with Ms. [REDACTED]'s best friend [as referenced in her allegation] and ask her recollection of Ms. [REDACTED] disclosing the abuse by Fr. Burns to her.
- That PRA personally review Fr. Burns' files in the appropriate offices [Vicar for Priests, Chancellor's files, etc.].

B.



Review for Cause

C.



**D.**

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**E.**

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the content of item E.

**Supplementary Review**

**F.**

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**III. Other Matters**

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*Next scheduled meeting is Saturday, April 9, 2005 at 9:00 a.m.*

Cc: Review Board Members  
Rev. Daniel A. Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board  
Rev. James T. Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests  
Rev. Edward D. Grace, Vicar for Priests  
Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.

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**PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY REVIEW BOARD MEETING**  
**Saturday, March 19, 2005**

**AGENDA**

- I. Approval of Minutes – February 12, 2005
- II. Case Reviews

**Initial Review:**

- A. [REDACTED]
- B. In the Matter of Burns, Eugene P. (Retired 1992/Deceased 2005) – PFR-245
  - Allegation made by [REDACTED]

**Review for Cause:**

- C. [REDACTED]
- D. [REDACTED]
- E. [REDACTED]

**Supplementary Review:**

- F. [REDACTED]

- III. Other Matters

*The next scheduled Board Meeting is for Saturday, April 16, 2005*

**PLEASE NOTE: DATE OF ADDITIONAL BOARD MEETING IN APRIL TO BE DETERMINED**

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## MEMORANDUM

To: File – PFR-245  
From: Review Board Meeting  
Re: Burns, Eugene (Deceased)/ [REDACTED]  
Date: March 29, 2005

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A summary of the discussion from the Review Board Meeting on Saturday, March 19, 2005:

The Review Board conducted an Initial Review regarding the allegation made by [REDACTED]. The claim is as follows: fondling, penetration; [REDACTED]

In a 8-0 vote in light of the information presented, the Board determined that this matter warrants additional investigation. The Board also requested that PRA complete the following tasks:

- [REDACTED]
- To request to speak with any/all of [REDACTED] family members and ask their recollection of Fr. Burns' presence at the family home when they were minors.
- To request to speak with [REDACTED] [as referenced in her allegation] and ask her recollection of [REDACTED] disclosing the abuse by Fr. Burns to her.
- That PRA personally review Fr. Burns' files in the appropriate offices [Vicar for Priests, Chancellor's files, etc.].

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Professional Responsibility Review Board  
676 North St. Clair - Suite 1910  
Chicago, IL 60611



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Hotline: 1-800-994-6200

RECORD OF CASE DISPOSITION

The Professional Responsibility Review Board met on 3/19/05 to conduct a(n)  
(enter date: month/day/year)

(check one:)  Initial Review Preliminary Review Review for Cause Supplementary Review  
Status Report  
regarding the allegation of \_\_\_\_\_  
(enter name of alleged victim)

against Rev. Eugene Burns  
(enter name of accused priest or deacon)

(check one:) a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago a deacon of the Archdiocese of Chicago  
an extern priest or deacon of the (Arch)diocese of \_\_\_\_\_  
(enter name of [Arch]diocese)

a religious priest or deacon of \_\_\_\_\_  
(enter name of religious community)

a resigned priest or deacon of \_\_\_\_\_  
(enter name of diocese or religious community)

a deceased priest or deacon of AOC  
(enter name of diocese or religious community)

which claims as follows: fondling penetration; showed  
erect penis into victims mouth  
(enter brief description of the alleged misconduct or inappropriate behavior)

**Initial Review:** In light of the information presented, the Review Board determined that

(check one:)  the information at least seems to be true of an offense.  
 the information does not seem to be true of an offense and the file should be closed.

If the information at least seems to be true of an offense, the Board recommends that

(check one:) the safety of children requires the immediate withdrawal of the accused from ministry.  
the accused may remain in ministry with monitoring and restrictions pending inquiry.  
the accused may remain in ministry without monitoring or restrictions pending inquiry.

**Review for Cause:** In light of the information presented, the Review Board determined that

(check one:) there is reasonable cause to suspect that the alleged misconduct occurred.  
 there is not reasonable cause to suspect that the alleged misconduct occurred.  
 there is insufficient information to make a finding of reasonable cause.

If there is a finding of reasonable cause to suspect, the Board recommends that

(check one:) the priest or deacon be immediately withdrawn from ministry (or that his withdrawal from  
ministry continue) and that restrictions and monitoring be imposed in accord with  
Archdiocesan policies and procedures.  
 no further action be taken because the accused priest is resigned or deceased, except  
to provide appropriate outreach to those affected by the alleged misconduct.

The Board further recommends: 8-0 warrants add'l

Victim Statement Abstract

This abstract replaces letters from Victim KQ to Fr. Jim Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests of the Archdiocese of Chicago, dated March 2005, discussing the impact of the sexual abuse by Fr. Eugene Burns.

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of Professional Responsibility



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March 28, 2005

Cardinal Francis George, O.M.I.  
Archbishop of Chicago  
155 E. Superior Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60611

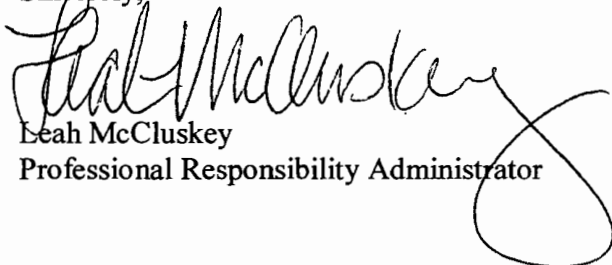
Dear Cardinal George,

Please be advised that the Professional Responsibility Review Board met on March 19, 2005 and conducted an Initial Review of [REDACTED] allegation of sexual misconduct against Rev. Eugene Burns pursuant to Article §1104.8 of the Review Process for Continuation of Ministry. Fr. Burns was a retired priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago until his death January 14, 2005.

The Board determined that in light of the information presented, additional investigation of the matter is warranted. The additional information obtained will be presented to the Board along with all other information regarding this matter for a Review for Cause.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [312] 751-5205.

Sincerely,

  
Leah McCluskey  
Professional Responsibility Administrator

*I accept the process  
Fr. Burns  
April 1, 2005*

Cc: Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board  
Ralph Bonaccorsi, Assistance Ministry

**RECEIVED**

**APR 04 2005**

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OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

AOC 009479

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## MEMORANDUM

To: File – PFR-245  
From: Review Board Meeting  
Re: Burns, Eugene (Deceased)/ [REDACTED]  
Date: March 29, 2005

---

A summary of the discussion from the Review Board Meeting on Saturday, March 19, 2005:

The Review Board conducted an Initial Review regarding the allegation made by [REDACTED]. The claim is as follows: fondling, penetration; [REDACTED]

In a 8-0 vote in light of the information presented, the Board determined that this matter warrants additional investigation. The Board also requested that PRA complete the following tasks:

- [REDACTED]
- To request to speak with any/all of Ms. [REDACTED] family members and ask their recollection of Fr. Burns' presence at the family home when they were minors.
- To request to speak with Ms. [REDACTED] best friend [as referenced in her allegation] and ask her recollection of Ms. [REDACTED] disclosing the abuse by Fr. Burns to her.
- That PRA personally review Fr. Burns' files in the appropriate offices [Vicar for Priests, Chancellor's files, etc.].

AOC 009480

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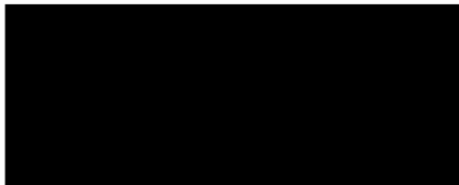
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April 13, 2005



Dear Ms. [REDACTED]

I hope that this letter finds you doing well.

I am writing on behalf of the Archdiocesan Review Board in regards to your allegation of sexual abuse against Rev. Eugene Burns.

Ms. [REDACTED], I first want to thank you for all of the information that you have shared thus far regarding this most serious matter. In your formal allegation against Fr. Burns, you spoke of your siblings being present at times when Fr. Burns was with your family both in your family home and other homes. You also mentioned sharing the abuse that you sustained by Fr. Burns with your best friend [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] have been asked by the Review Board for your permission to speak with any of your mentioned family members and/or [REDACTED].

I would greatly appreciate if you could please respond to these requests in the near future so that this matter may continue forward in the Review Board process. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at [312] 751-5205.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leah McCluskey".

Leah McCluskey  
Professional Responsibility Administrator

Cc: Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board  
Ralph Bonaccorsi, Assistance Ministry

AOC 009481



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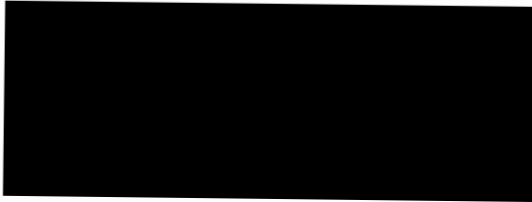
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April 13, 2005



Dear Ms [REDACTED]

Please be advised that the Professional Responsibility Review Board met on March 19, 2005 and conducted an Initial Review regarding your allegation of sexual misconduct against Rev. Eugene Burns, a deceased priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago, pursuant to Article §1104.8 of the Review Process for Continuation of Ministry. Despite the fact that Fr. Burns is deceased, the Board recommended to follow through with their process as your allegation was presented to him and he provided a response prior to his death.

Cardinal George has accepted the Review Board's determination that in light of the information presented, additional investigation is warranted. Any additional information obtained will be presented to the Board at a Review for Cause of this matter. If you have any additional information at this time, please forward it to my attention.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time. I may be reached at [312] 751-5205. Also, please know that the Office of Assistance Ministry continues to be available to you. They may be reached at [312] 751-8267.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leah McCluskey".

Leah McCluskey  
Professional Responsibility Administrator

Cc: Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board  
Ralph Bonaccorsi, Assistance Ministry

AOC 009482

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

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## MEMORANDUM


To: File – PFR-245




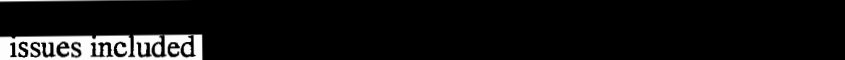
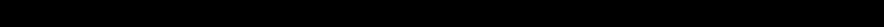
From: Leah McCluskey, Professional Responsibility Administrator 


Re: Burns, Rev. Eugene [Deceased] 

Date: April 14, 2005

---

PRA conducted a review of Rev. Eugene Burns' file located in the Chancellor's Office on April 13, 2005 in connection with Ms. 's allegation of sexual misconduct against him.

Based upon information located in the Chancellor's files, Fr. Burns had a long history of  that was present throughout his priesthood. Fr. Burns stayed at . He requested and was granted a sabbatical in 1984 .  Fr. Burns' medical issues included .

 According to the file, Fr. Burns' request for early retirement was granted in 1992 as a result of his poor health. There are also notes in the file that Fr. Burns was experiencing financial difficulties in 1992 as a result of past medical costs. Fr. Burns' request for financial assistance from the Archdiocese of Chicago was granted.

Cc: Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board  
Rev. James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests

AOC 009483

### Victim Statement Abstract

This abstract replaces a memorandum prepared by Leah McCluskey, Professional Responsibility Administrator for the Archdiocese of Chicago's Office of Professional Review, dated May 23, 2005, which summarizes voicemails from Victim KQ and a telephone call between Ms. McCluskey and Victim KQ. According to the memorandum, Victim KQ stated that despite the Review Board's request, she would not be willing to allow the Review Board to speak with Victim KQ's siblings or friends, but that Victim KQ would meet with the Review Board in person.

Office of Professional Responsibility

P.O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979(312) 751-5205  
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May 25, 2005



Dear Ms. [REDACTED],

I am writing this letter in response to your request to address the Review Board regarding your allegation of sexual abuse against Rev. Eugene Burns.

The Review Board has requested that I ask your availability to meet from 10:00 to 10:30 am on Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup> 2005, the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. During this time period, you would be asked to share with the Board any information and/or documentation regarding this matter that has not yet been presented for the Board's consideration. Review Board members may have clarification questions to ask of you during this time period, however the intent of this meeting will not be to ask countless questions of you. The primary reason for this meeting is so that you are able to present to/share with the Board any additional information regarding your allegation against Fr. Burns.

Ms. [REDACTED] please contact me at [312] 751-5205 to confirm your receipt of this letter and to confirm the suggested meeting date and time. The Board meeting will take place in our office located at 676 N. St. Clair, Suite 1910, Chicago, Illinois 60611.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leah McCluskey".

Leah McCluskey  
Professional Responsibility Administrator

Cc: Ralph Bonaccorsi, Assistance Ministry  
[REDACTED] Attorney

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

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Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

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## MEMORANDUM


To: File – PFR-245

From: Leah McCluskey, Professional Responsibility Administrator 



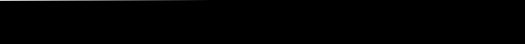





Re: Burns, Rev. Eugene [Deceased]/ 

Date: June 2, 2005

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As requested by the independent Review Board, PRA reviewed Rev. Eugene Burns' file in the Vicar for Priests Office. This request was made by the Board in connection with  allegation of sexual abuse against Fr. Burns.

As of the file review that took place on April 20, 2005, PRA noted the following:

- 
- Consistent financial issues
- 
- **April 2, 1985:** letter from Fr. Burns where he described his 30 years in parish work as “traumatic;” spoke of his upset with PRMAA upon their request for a copy of his Income Tax Report and will; requested an assignment at a hospital; expressed that he was not interested in parish work; used expletives to describe Cardinal Bernardin; stated, “I’m a goddamn good priest and I have paid my dues;” expressed his preference to go to a different diocese if he did not receive his requested assignment
- **September 22, 1995:** Fr. Burns’   priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago shared his feeling that Fr. Burns was  same priest also felt that Fr. Burns should not be alone in his home upon his return from 
- **March 2005:** documentation that Ms.  was 

Cc: Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Cardinal’s Delegate to the Review Board  
Rev. James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests  
Ralph Bonaccorsi, Assistance Ministry

AOC 009486

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of Professional Responsibility





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Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

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Fax: (312) 751-5279  
www.archchicago.org

## MEMORANDUM

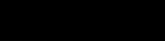
To: File – PFR-245

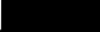



From: Leah McCluskey, Professional Responsibility Administrator 


Re: Burns, Rev. Eugene [Deceased 

Date: June 2, 2005

---

**PRA received a voice mail message from Ms.  on May 31, 2005 regarding her allegation of sexual abuse against Rev. Eugene Burns.**

Ms.  confirmed the receipt of the May 24, 2005 letter sent by PRA on behalf of the Review Board requesting her presence at the June 18, 2005 scheduled meeting [see file]. As per Ms.  she will be present at 10:00 am on June 18, 2005 to meet with the Review Board. Ms.  stated that she would also bring additional information [i.e. ] with her to share with the Board at the June 18, 2005 meeting.

Ms.  requested a return call from PRA only if there was a feeling that she misunderstood any information stated in the May 24, 2005 letter concerning her presence at the June 18, 2005 Review Board meeting.

Cc: Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board  
Ralph Bonaccorsi, Assistance Ministry

AOC 009487

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of Professional Responsibility



P.O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

**Professional Responsibility Review Board**  
**Saturday, June 18, 2005 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

(312) 751-5205  
Fax: (312) 751-5279  
www.archchicago.org

MINUTES

**CORRECTED**

**Review Board Members Present:**

[REDACTED]

**Members absent:**

[REDACTED]

**Non-members present:**

Leah McCluskey, Professional Responsibility Administrator [PRA]   
Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board

**I. Approval of Minutes – May 21, 2005**

- Change made to last bullet point at the bottom of page 1 [see “Corrected” minutes]; then approved by a vote of 6-0 [ [REDACTED] was not yet present ]

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

**II. Case Reviews**

**Review for Cause**

**A. In the Matter of Rev. Eugene Burns [Deceased 2005] PFR 245**

- Discussion of case prior to meeting with Ms. [REDACTED] at 10:00 am
- Agreed that Board members would introduce themselves to Ms. [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

- Ms. [REDACTED] arrived at 10:15 am with her partner, [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

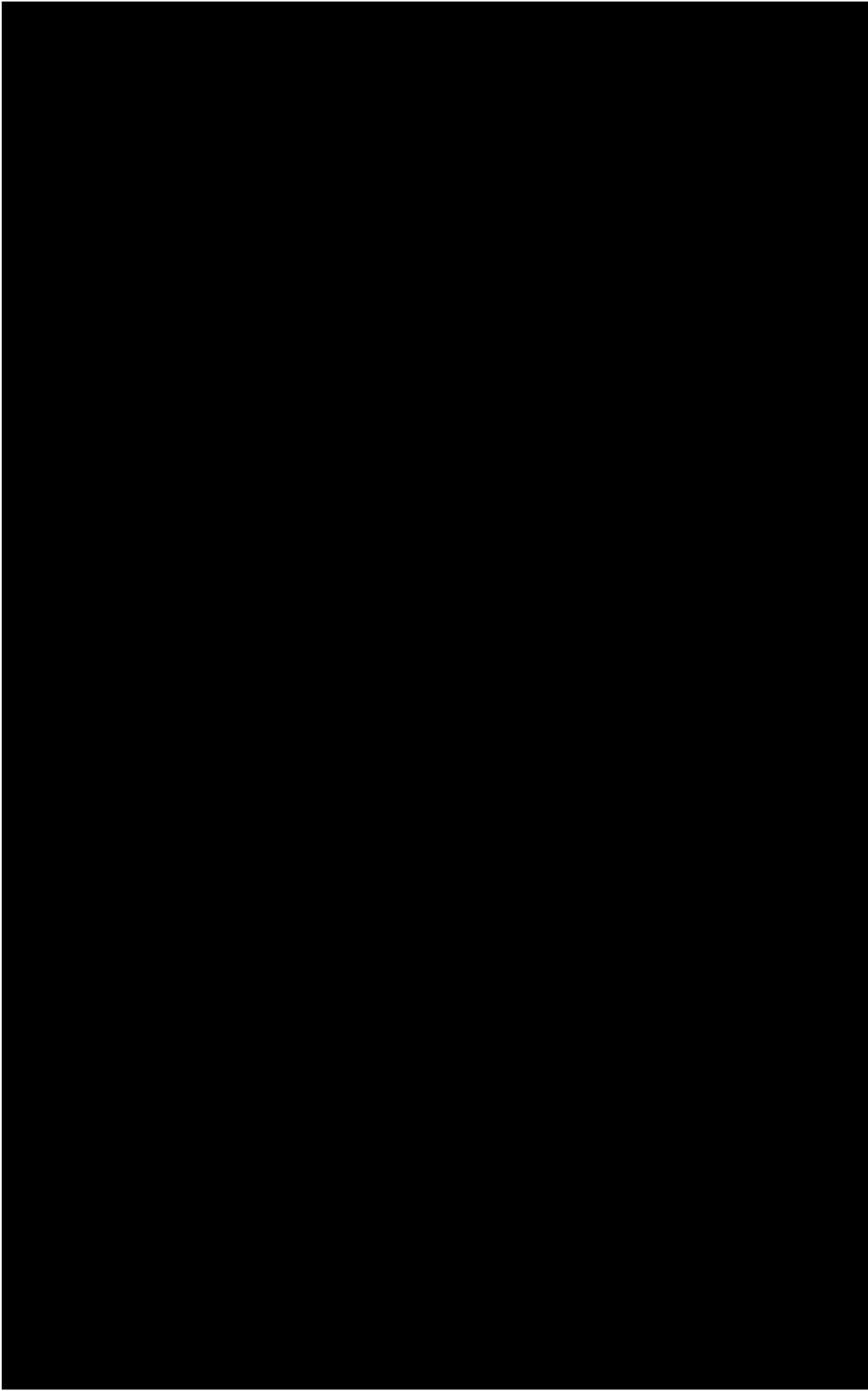
- Ms. [REDACTED] provided PRA with verbal consent to photocopy the letters and personal statement that she would read to the Board members [see file] for documentation purposes
- Ms. [REDACTED] noted several questions and concerns that she has brought to the attention of various archdiocesan personnel without receiving a response [see file]
- After Ms. [REDACTED] time with the Board was concluded [10:45 am], the Board unanimously agreed that it is **imperative** that PRA follow through with answering Ms. [REDACTED] questions posed
- The Board directed PRA to write a letter to Ms. [REDACTED] on their behalf thanking her for her presence at the June 18<sup>th</sup> Board meeting as well as indicating that PRA would attempt to provide answers to her questions and concerns by a stated future date [i.e. September 1, 2005]
- The Board requested that a copy of PRA's generated letter to Ms. [REDACTED] be sent in each Board member's packets for the July 16, 2005 meeting
- PRA will work with Fr. Smilanic and Mr. Ralph Bonaccorsi, Director of Assistance Ministry, to attempt to seek answers to Ms. [REDACTED]'s posed questions and concerns

The Review Board conducted a Review for Cause regarding the allegation made by [REDACTED]. The allegation is as follows: touching genitals under clothing; penetration with fingers; [REDACTED]

In a 7-0 vote in light of the information presented, the Review Board determined that there is reasonable cause to suspect that the alleged misconduct occurred. Further, the Board determined that no further action be taken because Fr. Burns is deceased, except to provide appropriate outreach to those affected by the alleged misconduct.

B. [REDACTED]



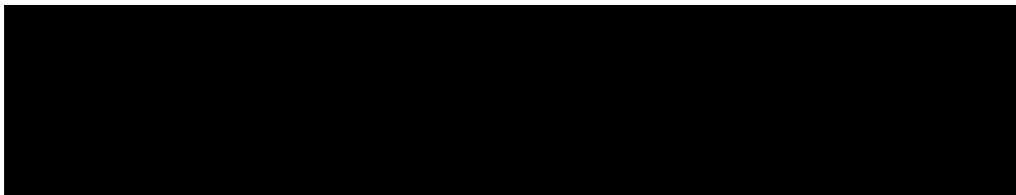
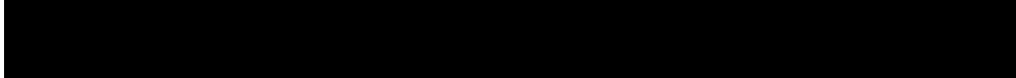
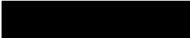


C.

D.

**III. Other Matters**

-

- 
- 
- PRA provided an update of new allegations to Board members
- PRA provided an update of Cardinal George's decisions to accept all Review Board recommendations made in regards to the May 21, 2005 and May 31, 2005 meetings
-  will not be present at the July 16, 2005 scheduled Review Board meeting

*Next scheduled meeting is Saturday, July 16, 2005 at 9:00 a.m.*

Cc: Review Board Members  
Rev. Daniel A. Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board  
Rev. James T. Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests  
Rev. Edward D. Grace, Vicar for Priests  
Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.

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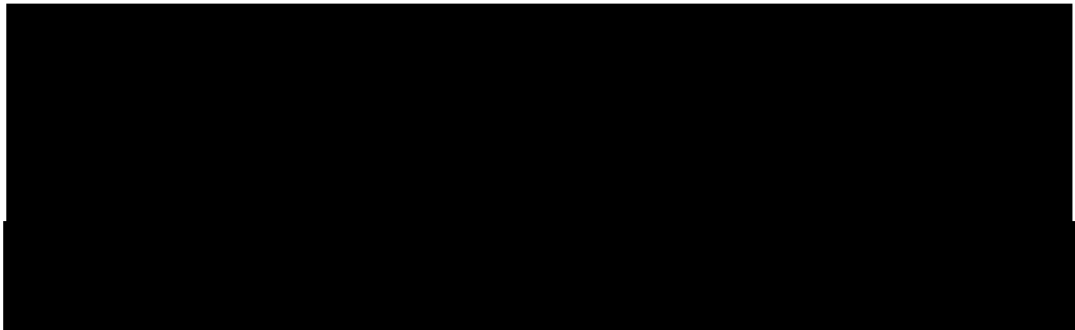
**PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY REVIEW BOARD MEETING**  
**Saturday, June 18, 2005**

**AGENDA**

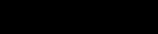
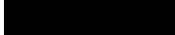
I. Approval of Minutes – May 21, 2005 and May 31, 2005 (Conference call)

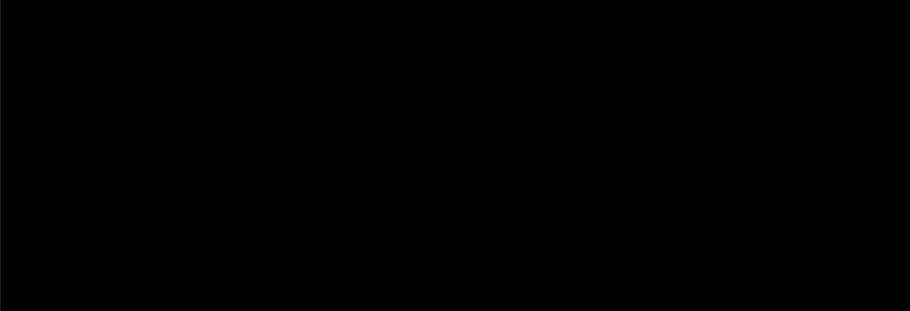
II. Case Reviews

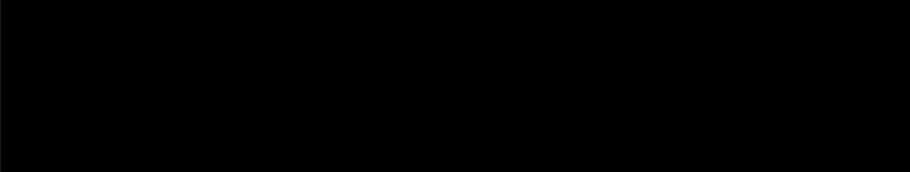
**Review for Cause:**

A. 

B. In the Matter of Rev. Eugene P. Burns (Deceased 2005) – PFR-245

- Allegation made by 
- **Initial Review - March 19, 2005**
-  will be present at the meeting to address the Board from 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

C. 

D. 

III. Other Matters

The next scheduled Board Meeting is for Saturday, July 16, 2005.

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of Professional Responsibility



P.O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

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Fax: (312) 751-5279  
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## MEMORANDUM

To: File – PFR-245  
From: Review Board Meeting  
Re: Burns, Rev. Eugene (Deceased) [REDACTED]  
Date: June 18, 2005

A summary of the discussion from the Professional Responsibility Board Meeting on June 18, 2005:

- Discussion of case prior to meeting with [REDACTED] at 10:00 am
- Agreed that Board members would introduce themselves to [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- Ms. [REDACTED] arrived at 10:15 am with her partner, [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- Ms. [REDACTED] provided PRA with verbal consent to photocopy the letters and personal statement that she would read to the Board members [see file] for documentation purposes
- Ms. [REDACTED] noted several questions and concerns that she has brought to the attention of various archdiocesan personnel without receiving a response [see file]
- After Ms. [REDACTED]'s time with the Board was concluded [10:45 am], the Board unanimously agreed that it is **imperative** that PRA follow through with answering Ms. [REDACTED] questions posed
- The Board directed PRA to write a letter to Ms. [REDACTED] on their behalf thanking her for her presence at the June 18<sup>th</sup> Board meeting as well as indicating that PRA would attempt to provide answers to her questions and concerns by a stated future date [i.e. September 1, 2005]
- The Board requested that a copy of PRA's generated letter to Ms. [REDACTED] be sent in each Board member's packets for the July 16, 2005 meeting
- PRA will work with Fr. Smilanic and Mr. Ralph Bonaccorsi, Director of Assistance Ministry, to attempt to seek answers to Ms. [REDACTED] posed questions and concerns

The Review Board conducted a Review for Cause regarding the allegation made by [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] The allegation is as follows: touching genitals under clothing; penetration with fingers;  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

In a 7-0 vote in light of the information presented, the Review Board determined that there is reasonable cause to suspect that the alleged misconduct occurred. Further, the Board determined that no further action be taken because Fr. Burns is deceased, except to provide appropriate outreach to those affected by the alleged misconduct.

### Victim Statement Abstract

This abstract replaces a letter from Victim KQ to the Archdiocese of Chicago Review Board, dated June 18, 2005. Victim KQ previously received a letter from the Review Board asking to speak with friends and family members, but Victim KQ did not believe this was necessary. Victim KQ believed that the Review Board should research her going to the Archdiocese of Chicago in 1992 to report her abuse, but being escorted out by security. Victim KQ also noted that Ralph Bonaccorsi remembered this incident. Victim KQ discussed her reasoning for waiting so long to report her abuse to the Archdiocese of Chicago.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Professional Responsibility Review Board
676 North St. Clair - Suite 1910
Chicago, IL 60611



(312) 751-5205
Fax: (312) 751-5279
Hotline: 1-800-994-6200

RECORD OF CASE DISPOSITION

The Professional Responsibility Review Board met on 6/18/05 to conduct a(n)
(enter date: month/day/year)

(check one:) Initial Review Preliminary Review Review for Cause Supplementary Review
Status Report

regarding the allegation of [redacted]
(enter name of alleged victim)

against Eugene Burns
(enter name of accused priest or deacon)

(check one:) A priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago a deacon of the Archdiocese of Chicago
an extern priest or deacon of the (Arch)diocese of
(enter name of [Arch]diocese)

a religious priest or deacon of
(enter name of religious community)

a resigned priest or deacon of
(enter name of diocese or religious community)

a deceased priest or deacon of
(enter name of diocese or religious community)

which claims as follows:
(enter brief description of the alleged misconduct or inappropriate behavior)

Initial Review: In light of the information presented, the Review Board determined that

(check one:) the information at least seems to be true of an offense.
the information does not seem to be true of an offense and the file should be closed.

If the information at least seems to be true of an offense, the Board recommends that

(check one:) the safety of children requires the immediate withdrawal of the accused from ministry.
the accused may remain in ministry with monitoring and restrictions pending inquiry.
the accused may remain in ministry without monitoring or restrictions pending inquiry.

Review for Cause: In light of the information presented, the Review Board determined that

(check one:) there is reasonable cause to suspect that the alleged misconduct occurred.
there is not reasonable cause to suspect that the alleged misconduct occurred.
there is insufficient information to make a finding of reasonable cause.

If there is a finding of reasonable cause to suspect, the Board recommends that

(check one:) the priest or deacon be immediately withdrawn from ministry (or that his withdrawal from
ministry continue) and that restrictions and monitoring be imposed in accord with
Archdiocesan policies and procedures.

no further action be taken because the accused priest is resigned or deceased, except
to provide appropriate outreach to those affected by the alleged misconduct.

The Board further recommends: 7-0 reasonable cause



# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of Professional Responsibility



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June 20, 2005

Cardinal Francis George, O.M.I.  
Archbishop of Chicago  
155 E. Superior Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60611

**RECEIVED**

**JUN 21 2005**

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO  
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

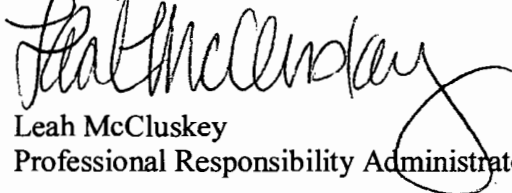
Dear Cardinal George,

Please be advised that the Professional Responsibility Review Board met on June 18, 2005 and conducted a Review for Cause of [REDACTED] allegation of sexual misconduct against Rev. Eugene Burns pursuant to Article §1104.9 of the Review Process for Continuation of Ministry. Fr. Burns is a deceased priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

The Board determined that in light of the information presented, there is reasonable cause to suspect that the alleged misconduct occurred. The Board also recommended that no further action be taken due to the fact that Fr. Burns is deceased, except to provide appropriate outreach to those affected by the alleged misconduct.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [312] 751-5205.

Sincerely,

  
Leah McCluskey  
Professional Responsibility Administrator

Cc: Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board  
Rev. James Kaczorowski, Vicar for Priests

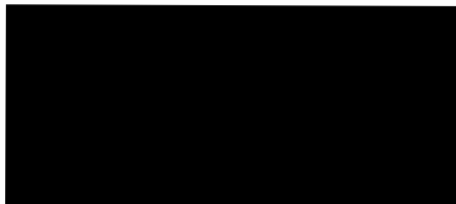
*I accept this determination.  
Fr. James  
June 21, 2005*

AOC 009498

Office of Professional Responsibility

P.O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979(312) 751-5205  
Fax: (312) 751-5279  
www.archchicago.org

June 28, 2005



Dear Ms. [REDACTED]

Please be advised that the Professional Responsibility Review Board met on June 18, 2005 and conducted a Review for Cause regarding your allegation of sexual misconduct against Rev. Eugene Burns pursuant to Article §1104.9 of the Review Process for Continuation of Ministry. Fr. Burns is a deceased priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

At a Review for Cause, the Review Board determines, based on the information that has been gathered and made available to it, whether there is reasonable cause to suspect that the priest engaged in the sexual misconduct of a minor. If the Board determines that there is reason to suspect that sexual misconduct of a minor has occurred and Cardinal George accepts the recommendation, formal proceedings commence under Canon [Church] Law.

In the Review for Cause of this matter on June 18<sup>th</sup>, the Board determined that there is reasonable cause to suspect that the alleged misconduct occurred. Cardinal George has accepted the Board's recommendation.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time. I may be reached at [312] 751-5205. Also, please know that the Office of Assistance Ministry continues to be available to you. They may be reached at [312] 751-8267.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Leah McCluskey'.

Leah McCluskey  
Professional Responsibility Administrator

Cc: Rev. Daniel Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate to the Review Board  
Ralph Bonaccorsi, Assistance Ministry

Office of Professional Responsibility

P.O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979(312) 751-5205  
Fax: (312) 751-5279  
www.archchicago.org

June 28, 2005

[REDACTED]  
Dear Ms [REDACTED]

I hope that this letter finds you doing well.

I am writing to you on behalf of the Professional Responsibility Review Board regarding your presence at the June 18, 2005 Review Board meeting.

The Board members have asked that I attempt to convey to you their great appreciation for your agreement to meet with them on June 18<sup>th</sup> and for sharing all that you did regarding yourself and Rev. Eugene Burns. The Board members also requested that I express the empathy that they share with you surrounding the emotional and physical efforts that you took to meet with them.The Board members share your concern for the unanswered questions that you have already posed to the Archdiocese of Chicago. Please know that I have been asked by the Board to follow up with your questions and concerns. I intend to have responses for you in the near future, no later than September 1<sup>st</sup>.Ms [REDACTED] I again want to thank you on behalf of the Review Board members for your attendance at the June 18<sup>th</sup> meeting and for speaking with them. We will speak again soon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leah McCluskey".  
Leah McCluskey  
Professional Responsibility AdministratorCc: Ralph Bonaccorsi, Assistance Ministry  
[REDACTED] Attorney

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Archbishop



155 E. Superior St.  
Chicago, Illinois 60611

June 29, 2005

Ms. Leah McCluskey  
Office of Professional Responsibility  
676 N. St. Clair St.  
Chicago, IL 60611

Dear Ms. McCluskey,

I am writing to you in order to formalize my handwritten note of June 21, 2005 in response to your letter of June 20, 2005, regarding the matter of **Reverend Eugene Burns**, a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago who is deceased, and the allegations of sexual misconduct that were made against him by [REDACTED]. This matter was discussed in a Review for Cause by the Professional Responsibility Review Board at their meeting of June 18, 2005.

I accept the Review Board's determination that there is reasonable cause to suspect that the alleged misconduct occurred. I also accept their recommendation that no further action can be taken at this time, since Father Burns is deceased. I ask the Assistance Ministry of the Archdiocese of Chicago to provide appropriate outreach to those affected by the alleged misconduct.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.



Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Francis Cardinal George".

Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.  
Archbishop of Chicago

*Rev. Richard Sanchez*

Ecclesiastical Notary

cc: Reverend George J. Rassas, Vicar General  
Rev. Daniel A. Smilanic, Cardinal's Delegate  
Rev. Patrick R. Lagges, Judicial Vicar/Vicar for Canonical Services  
Reverend Edward D. Grace, Vicar for Priests  
Mr. Ralph Bonaccorsi, Assistance Minister  
Mr. Jimmy Lago, Chancellor  
Mr. John C. O'Malley, Director of Legal Services

AOC 009501

Office of Professional Responsibility

P.O. Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979(312) 751-5205  
Fax: (312) 751-5279  
www.archchicago.org

September 1, 2005



Dear Ms. [REDACTED]

I hope that this letter finds you doing well.

I am writing to you in regards to the questions and concerns you shared with the Review Board when you met with them on June 18, 2005.

I wanted to inform you that my associate Mrs. Patricia Zacharias, Professional Responsibility Assistant Administrator, has worked on compiling and has completed a contact list of individuals who may have information and recollections of the incident that you have shared that took place in the Pastoral Center approximately 10 years ago.

I will continue to go through the list and speak with all individuals that Mrs. Zacharias has identified, as each had some role in the Pastoral Center 10 years ago around the time period of the incident that you have shared. I apologize for not having all information for you by this date, but I wanted to update you with the progress that has been made thus far. Once I have had the opportunity to speak with the former and current employees that have been identified, I will be in contact with you to share what I have learned.

Ms. [REDACTED], please know that you may reach me at [312] 751-5205 with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leah McCluskey".

Leah McCluskey  
Professional Responsibility Administrator

Cc: Ralph Bonaccorsi, Assistance Ministry  
Patricia Zacharias, Professional Responsibility Assistant Administrator  
[REDACTED]

# CHICAGO SUN-TIMES

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## Archdiocese settles with 24 accusers

October 28, 2005

BY [CATHLEEN FALSANI](#) Religion Reporter

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago has reached an out-of-court settlement with two dozen men and women who say they were sexually abused as minors by priests of the archdiocese, lawyers for the victims and a spokesman for Cardinal Francis George said Thursday.

The settlement involves 14 current or former priests, none of whom is in active ministry today. Five of the men — Eugene Burns, [REDACTED] are deceased, said Jim Dwyer, a spokesman for George.

The other nine — [REDACTED] — have been removed permanently from ministry, Dwyer said.

Since 1950, the Chicago archdiocese has received credible allegations of sexual abuse of minors against 60 priests, Dwyer said. At a press conference Thursday, [REDACTED] attorneys for the 24 abuse survivors, released a list of 38 priests (including the 14 involved in the settlement) they say have credible allegations of abuse against them.

### Abuse long ago

Dwyer confirmed that their list of 38 was accurate, but declined to name the remaining 22 priests or provide a comprehensive list of the names of all 60 priests who have been accused since 1950, citing concerns about naming someone publicly who has never been charged criminally or sued for sexually abusing minors.

Many of the priests accused of abuse in the Chicago archdiocese and elsewhere never have been successfully prosecuted or sued because the alleged abuse took place so long ago, civil and criminal statutes of limitation have expired.

### List of accused priests

While they commended archdiocesan officials for their willingness to negotiate and settle with abuse survivors whose cases were beyond statutes of limitations, [REDACTED] called on archdiocesan officials to release a comprehensive list of priests who stand accused of abusing minors.

"Until they come clean, as it were, with what they know, children are at risk, the parishes of the archdiocese of Chicago are not safe and we are deeply worried," said [REDACTED] a St. Paul, Minn., attorney who has represented hundreds of clergy sex abuse victims across the nation.

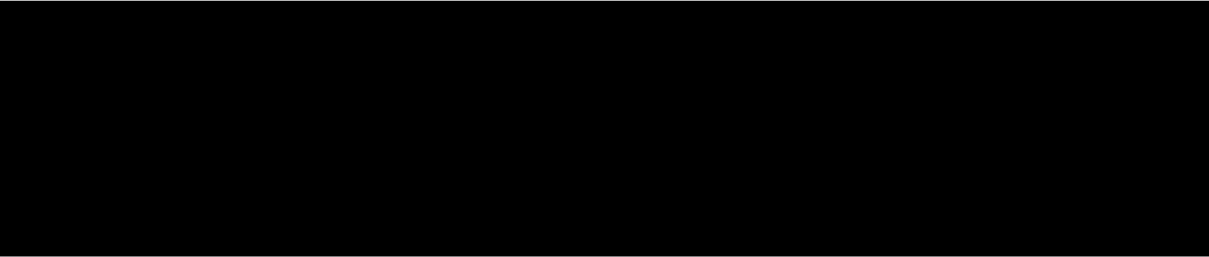
Neither [REDACTED] would disclose the monetary amount of the settlement.

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January 20, 2006

The Most Reverend Francis Cardinal George O.M.I.  
Archbishop of Chicago  
Archdiocese of Chicago  
155 East Superior  
Chicago, Illinois 60611

Dear Archbishop George:



On October 27, 2005 the four o'clock, ABC's Channel 7, telecast aired an accusation by a [REDACTED] of alleged abuse by Father Gene which purportedly occurred over 43 years ago while he was an Assistant at St. Catherine Laboure Parish in Glenview. The following morning two separate newspapers, the *Chicago Tribune* and the *Daily Southtown* ran articles reiterating the allegations and also reported an undisclosed financial settlement by the Archdiocese. Needless to say, each of us was shocked and dismayed. We had no prior notice that these events were unfolding and that our family name would be so publicly smeared. As a result, we immediately began a process to get answers regarding a number of questions including *inter alia*:

1. Why were we not notified that these issues had surfaced in October 2004, ten months prior to this publication?
2. Why was a confidentiality agreement not entered into with the alleged accuser as part of the settlement?

3. Why was Father Burns not told about the allegations at the time they first surfaced, namely May 10, 2004, rather than 6 days before his death on January 11, 2005?

As a result, [REDACTED] contacted Father Pollardv who did not have much information. She then contacted the Vicar of Priests, Farther Vince Costello. Father Costello confirmed that the allegations first surfaced on May 10, 2004, when Ms. [REDACTED] came to the Archdiocese accompanied by [REDACTED]. Approximately 7 months later the Vicar of the Archdiocese visited Father Burns. [REDACTED] also visited Farther Burns on the same day. Father Gene brought up the Vicar's visit and the allegations and said, "Why would she say that? I would never hurt her or any child or anyone for that matter." Father Burns died six days later.

Both [REDACTED] contacted various representatives of the Archdiocese in an effort to obtain more information but were largely unsuccessful. As a result, in early December 2005 we requested [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] to meet with the Archdiocese representatives and John O'Malley, Corporation Counsel, to discuss this matter.

[REDACTED] met with Mr. O'Malley and Fathers Costello and [REDACTED] for approximately 1½ hours. He addressed a number of our concerns as well as his own regarding the lack of an independent investigation and the lack of credible and substantive evidence to support the allegations. He reported back to us at least the following:

[REDACTED]



3. There is no independent corroboration to support her allegation [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] In fact, during the time Father Burns was an Associate at St. Catherine, *i.e.* 1961-1967, Father Burns neither owned nor leased a vacation home. Members of our family as well as others are prepared to tell you point blank that [REDACTED] was accompanied by her parents on any visit to Father Burns since her parents were close personal friends with Father Burns, and remained so for at least 25 years after this incident.

What is astounding to us is that there was no indication of any corroborating statement to support her allegation and no further investigation was undertaken by the Archdiocese other than accepting the statement of [REDACTED]. In October 2004, representatives of the Archdiocese knew of our existence and could have picked up the telephone to discuss the allegations.

As a result of the Dallas Conference, the presumption is that the accuser is telling the truth and that there is in essence no need to corroborate the truthfulness of the allegations.

If the process applied by the Archdiocese here were applied to the allegations made against the late Cardinal Bernadin, the result would have been entirely different. Cardinal Bernadin would never have had an opportunity to defend himself and to ultimately be exonerated. Likewise, the allegation made against [REDACTED] As you know, he was accused of inappropriate conduct by the parents of a parishioner. He fought those charges in a court of law and was exonerated. In fact, he received a monetary judgment as a result of the false accusations made against him. If the process applied here was applied to [REDACTED] he never would have been able to uphold his good name.

The process applied to Father Burns is medieval and smacks of an inquisition. It violates basic tenets of due process and fairness.

The Most Reverend Francis Cardinal George O.M.I.

January 20, 2006

Page 4

We are requesting an opportunity to meet with you or with the Vicar General of the Archdiocese, Bishop Rassas, to discuss this matter further. We would suggest that [REDACTED] also be present along with John O'Malley.

In order to streamline such a request, we ask that you contact [REDACTED]

Respectfully yours,  
[REDACTED]

Cc: Bishop Rassas

Cc: [REDACTED]

Cc: John O'Malley

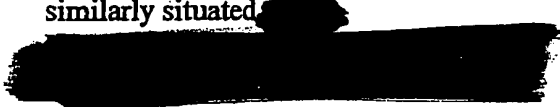
Cc: Rev. Vince Costello

AOC 009507

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
COUNTY DEPARTMENT- CHANCERY DIVISION

FILED-3  
06 JAN 31 AM 10:39  
CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK  
COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
CHANCERY DIV.  
COURT CLERK

Mother Doe 100, individually and as  
representative of the minor John Doe 100,  
on behalf of themselves and all others  
similarly situated



RECEIVED

APR 18 2006

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO  
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

Plaintiffs,


vs.

06CH02017

The Archdiocese of Chicago d/b/a The Catholic  
Bishop of Chicago, a corporation sole,

Defendant.

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

NOW COMES the Plaintiffs, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, by and  
through their attorneys, 

 to obtain declaratory and injunctive relief against Defendant, states as follows:

INTRODUCTION

1. This Complaint seeks declaratory judgment and injunctive relief against the  
Archdiocese of Chicago. The Archdiocese of Chicago has established a policy of harboring and  
protecting suspected child molesting agents, thereby endangering numerous children in Illinois.  
The Archdiocese has information about a number of suspected child molesting agents that it has  
never disclosed to law enforcement or the public at large, thereby causing children such as John  
Doe 100 to be harmed. Further, on information and belief, the Archdiocese has a policy and

practice of document destruction. This declaratory relief and injunction action seeks to have the Archdiocese produce all documents regarding the molestation of children by its agents for court supervision, to release the names of all agents accused of molesting children to the court and to the public, and to enjoin the Archdiocese from destroying any documents regarding suspected childhood sexual abuse by its agents.

#### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

2. This Court has jurisdiction over this action because it seeks to redress violations of the plaintiffs' rights and to protect children in Illinois that are in imminent danger. Venue is proper because the Archdiocese resides in Cook County and the majority of the allegations herein involve occurrences in Cook County.

#### PARTIES

3. Plaintiff John Doe 100 is a minor. Mother Doe 100 is John Doe 100's mother and legal guardian. At all times material, Plaintiff John Doe 100 was a resident of the State of Illinois. At all times material, Mother Doe 100 was a resident of the State of Illinois.

4. The identities of all Doe Plaintiffs are made known to Defendants through separate cover letter.

5. Plaintiff [REDACTED] is a thirty five year old Chicago resident. [REDACTED] was sexually molested as a child by [REDACTED] a religious order priest who was serving at a parish within the Archdiocese at the time of the abuse.

6. At all times material, the Catholic Bishop of Chicago, a Corporation Sole (hereinafter "Archdiocese of Chicago") was and is an Illinois corporation. Defendant has approximately eight hundred fifty four Diocesan priests serving in two counties in the State of

Illinois. At all times material to the complaint, Defendant Archdiocese was conducting business in the State of Illinois.

### CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

7. Plaintiffs bring this action on behalf of themselves and, pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/2-801, as the representatives of the class of persons who have been molested as children by an agent of the Archdiocese of Chicago and on behalf of those children who have not yet been abused, but who are in imminent danger of abuse because the Archdiocese has not released the names and files of agents that have been accused of molesting children or accused of inappropriate sexual behavior with children to either the public or to the court.

8. The Plaintiff class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. In its own self report, the Archdiocese asserted that there were 142 cases where they had reason to suspect that an agent had sexually molested a child. These numbers only include information that was reported to the Archdiocese. The underlying data for the results was not disclosed to the public.

9. There are questions of fact or law common to the class, which predominate over questions affecting only individual members. The common questions of law or fact include, but are not limited to: whether the Archdiocese of Chicago has failed to protect children by not releasing the names of its agents who have been accused of molesting children to the public and law enforcement and whether the Archdiocese has or is destructing documents in order to cover up or conceal crimes against children by clergy serving in and/or employed by the Archdiocese.

10. The Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the class. The interests of the plaintiffs are the same as those of all class members because they have all been

sexually abused by an agent of the Archdiocese of Chicago or are in danger of being molested by an agent of the Archdiocese of Chicago because the Archdiocese's information is not public. All have an interest in preventing the sexual abuse of any further children by agents of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

11. A class action is an appropriate method for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy alleged in this complaint. The expense and burden of individual litigation would make it difficult or impossible for individual members of the class to redress the wrongs done to them. The cost to the court system of adjudication of such individualized litigation would be substantial. Individualized litigation would also present the potential for inconsistent or contradictory judgments and would magnify the delay and expense to all parties and the court system. By contrast, the conduct of this action as a class action presents far fewer management difficulties, conserves the resources of the parties and court system, and protects the rights of each class member. In addition, the prosecution of separate actions by the individual members of the class would create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to individual class members which would establish incompatible standards of conduct for the defendant.

#### ALLEGATIONS OF FACT

12. [REDACTED] (hereinafter "[REDACTED]") was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago in approximately 1994.

13. At all times material, [REDACTED] was employed by the Archdiocese.

[REDACTED] was an ordained Roman Catholic Priest educated, trained and ordained by, and under the direct supervision, employ, agency and control of the Archdiocese. Among [REDACTED] duties in his employment was to provide pastoral care and counseling for

members of his denomination.

14. In approximately the winter of 2000, a nun at Holy Family Church in Chicago reported to the Archdiocese of Chicago that [REDACTED] asked a fourth-grade boy to pull down his pants in the sacristy at Holy Family.

15. The nun reported this numerous times to the Archdiocese.

16. On information and belief, on one occasion when the nun reported it to the Archdiocese, an official told her that "if the parents aren't pushing it, let it go."

17. After these reports, the nun made a final report to the Archdiocese, this one a written report of [REDACTED] behavior.

18. On information and belief, in 2000, the Archdiocese did not report [REDACTED] to law enforcement, did not tell any of the parishioners at any of the parishes [REDACTED] worked at in the past about the report, did not tell any of the parishioners at any of the parishes where [REDACTED] worked after these reports, and did not tell any other children or parents about the report.

19. On information and belief, after the nun reported the abuse to the Archdiocese, the Archdiocese transferred [REDACTED] to another parish, St. Agatha's in Chicago.

20. On information and belief, despite the report, the Archdiocese allowed [REDACTED] to teach at an Archdiocesan school and coach a boys basketball team.

21. In response to the clergy abuse scandal, the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops passed the Dallas Charter.

22. On information and belief the Bishops passed the Dallas Charter in 2002. The Charter was only enforced, if at all, from within. There was no meaningful external non church

oversight over its enforcement.

23. Cardinal Francis George represented to the public that the Charter was a "zero tolerance" policy that committed them to removal of priests in childhood sexual abuse cases. He also represented to the public that a priest with even one act of sexual misconduct with a child should not be allowed in public ministry in order to protect children.

24. In January of 2003, the Archdiocese released a "Ten Year Report" that purported to give information about the Archdiocese's efforts to stop childhood sexual abuse by clerics in the previous ten years.

25. On information and belief, the Ten Year Report purports to give the current status of priests that were accused of molesting a child anytime from 1993 to 2003. The report indicates that no priest accused of abuse during that time period is in any form of ministry in the Archdiocese of Chicago.

26. The Ten Year Report also states that officials of the Archdiocese have reported all allegations, including those not deemed credible, to the appropriate public authorities.

27. On information and belief, the Archdiocese did not include [REDACTED] in the Ten Year Report.

28. Also in response to the clergy abuse scandal, the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops agreed to participate in a self report survey conducted by the John Jay College.

29. As part of the John Jay survey, each Diocese submitted the number of priests that had allegations of sexual misconduct with a minor within the particular Diocese.

30. On information and belief there was no oversight over the information that was



given to the John Jay College. It was completely up to the particular Diocese to respond honestly.

31. The John Jay College defined "allegation," as all recorded notifications of clerical sexual misconduct with minors, whether or not they resulted in any investigation or whether there was reasonable cause to suspect abuse had occurred.

32. In 2004, the Archdiocese reported that it had reason to believe that 55 priests had sexual misconduct with a minor.

33. In 2004, Cardinal George and the Archdiocese represented to the public that there were no priests that were accused of childhood sexual abuse that were in public ministry in the Archdiocese of Chicago.

34. On information and belief, the Archdiocese did not include [REDACTED] in the 2004 John Jay numbers.

35. On information and belief in August of 2005, the Archdiocese learned that law enforcement was investigating [REDACTED] for childhood sexual abuse.

36. On information and belief, in August of 2005, the Archdiocese did not inform the law enforcement that a nun had reported that [REDACTED] had acted in a sexually inappropriate manner with a child in 2000.

37. On information and belief, just as it did in 2000, the Archdiocese did not report or warn any of the parishioners, the public, or the parents at St. Agatha parish that law enforcement was investigating [REDACTED] for childhood sexual abuse.

38. On information and belief, the Archdiocese elevated [REDACTED] to a position of authority in the Archdiocese on September 1, 2005. It appointed him as Dean of a Deanery of

the Archdiocese. This is an honored, respected, and supervisory position within the Archdiocese. This meant that [REDACTED] was still at St. Agathas, but also had some supervisory authority over roughly 20 parishes in the Archdiocese.

39. The Archdiocese allowed [REDACTED] to remain at St. Agathas and in the position of Dean until at least January of 2006, more four months after the Archdiocese received at least its second report of sexual misconduct against a minor by [REDACTED]

40. In January of 2006, Chicago law enforcement arrested [REDACTED] and charged him with sexually molesting two boys on multiple occasions.

41. On information and belief, the nun who reported the abuse to the Archdiocese in 2000 was contacted by the Archdiocese the day before [REDACTED] was arrested. The Archdiocese indicated to the nun that it did not have the nun's letter.

42. On information and belief, the Archdiocese also stated publicly that it has no written record of the nun's reports or the actual letter.

43. On information and belief, the Archdioceses and Dioceses across the United States, including the Archdiocese of Chicago, have been instructed to destroy documentation of sexual misconduct by priests and/or to send any of this material to the Holy See in order to claim it is immune from public discovery or disclosure.

44. On information and belief, the Archdiocese has not released the names of the 55 priests that it deemed as having reason to suspect committed sexual misconduct with children.

45. On information and belief, the Archdiocese has also not released the names of any of the other clerics, like [REDACTED] who were accused of sexual misconduct and are still in parishes, but not included in the Ten Year Report or the John Jay Survey.

46. Although the Archdiocese had not released the names of offenders, some names of Archdiocesan clerics accused of sexual misconduct have been released during the course of litigation. These names were released in 2005:

- 1) Richard "Doc" Bartz
- 2) Robert Becker
- 3) R. Peter Bowman
- 4) Daniel Buck
- 5) Eugene Burns
- 6) John Callicott
- 7) William Cloutier
- 8) Robert D. Craig
- 9) John Curran
- 10) Walter DeRoeck
- 11) Jeremiah Duggan
- 12) Richard Fassbinder
- 13) Joseph Fitzharris
- 14) Robert Friese
- 15) James Hagan
- 16) Daniel Mark Holihan
- 17) Walter Huppenbauer
- 18) Thomas Job
- 19) Robert Kealy

- 20) John Keehan
- 21) Thomas Kelly
- 22) John "Jack" Keough
- 23) Joseph Kissane
- 24) Leonard Kmak
- 25) William Lupo
- 26) Norbert Maday
- 27) Robert Mayer
- 28) Vincent McCaffrey
- 29) Donald Mulsoff
- 30) Thomas O'Gorman
- 31) James Ray
- 32) John Robinson
- 33) Kenneth Ruge
- 34) Raymond Skriba
- 35) Marion Snieg
- 36) Victor Stewart
- 37) Ralph Strand
- 38) Thomas Swade
- 39) Anthony Vader

47. Names that have not previously been released but who, on information and belief, have been accused of sexual misconduct with a minor:

1) James Flosi

48. There are also a number of religious order priests who worked in the Archdiocese. On information and belief, the Archdiocese had control and/or supervision over these clerics while they were working in the Archdiocese. On information and belief, the Archdiocese knows about these clerics' misconduct. On information and belief, those religious order clerics that have been accused of sexual misconduct are:

- 1) Robert Berlet (Christian Brothers)
- 2) Robert Brouillette (Christian Brothers)
- 3) Vincent Bryce (Dominicans)
- 4) George Dyer (Dominicans)
- 5) Terrence Fitzmaurice (Benedictines)
- 6) John Huels (Servite)
- 7) Augustine Jones (Benedictines)
- 8) Donald McGuire (Jesuits)
- 9) John Murphy (Augustinians)
- 10) Robert Murphy (Camelites)
- 11) Michael O'Connor (Augustinians)
- 12) Jean Baptiste (J.B.) Ormechea (Passionists)
- 13) Eusebio Pantoja (Claretians)
- 14) Thomas Paramo (Claretians)
- 15) Carlos Peralta (Salesians)
- 16) John Powell (Jesuits)

17) Andrew Ronan (Servites)

18) Wilton Skiffington (Jesuits)

19) Patrick Strong (Augustinians)

49. [REDACTED] sexually molested John Doe 100 at some point between approximately 2000 and 2005, when John Doe 100 was a minor child.

50. Neither John Doe 100 nor Mother Doe 100 knew that the Archdiocese had received reports about [REDACTED] sexual abuse of children.

**COUNT I**  
**(Injunction - Release of Names)**

51. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege every paragraph of this complaint as if set forth in Count I.

52. Plaintiffs bring Count I on their own behalf and on behalf of the class of similarly situated persons described in paragraph 7 of this Complaint.

53. The practices of the Archdiocese of Chicago have endangered numerous children in the past and these practices will continue to put children at risk in the future.

54. Plaintiffs and the class have the right to not be sexually molested by clerics of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

55. The Archdiocese owes a duty to warn all children and their parents that come into contact with its clerics of allegations of sexual misconduct by the clerics because these children and their parents hold clerics in an esteemed position, which gives clerics virtually unlimited access to children.

56. The Archdiocese also owes a duty to children and their parents to release all of the names of clerics against whom the Archdiocese has deemed to have credible allegations of

sexual misconduct with children to the court and to the public at large.

57. The Archdiocese also owes a duty to children and their parents to release all of the names of clerics that have been accused of sexual misconduct with children to the court and to the public at large.

58. Unless injunctive relief is granted numerous children in Illinois are at risk of being sexually molested by clerics of the Archdiocese.

59. In order to ensure that children are protected and free from sexual molestation by clerics, the plaintiffs and the members of the class are entitled to an injunction ordering that the Archdiocese do the following:

- a) Release the names of all 55 of the priests that it reported to the John Jay Survey to the court and to the public.
- b) Release the names of all other clerics, like [REDACTED], that were not included in the John Jay Survey, but against whom the Archdiocese has received allegations of sexual misconduct by the cleric with children to the court and to the public.

**COUNT II**  
**(Injunction - Documents)**

60. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege every paragraph of this complaint as if set forth in Count II.

61. Plaintiffs bring Count II on their own behalf and on behalf of the class of similarly situated persons described in paragraph 7 of this Complaint.

62. On information and belief, the Archdiocese still has documents that are evidence of crimes committed by clerics against children.

63. The Archdiocese has a duty to the public at large and to law enforcement to not

destroy any documents that evidence a crime.

64. The Archdiocese has a duty to children that were abused by clerics to not destroy any documents relating to the sexual misconduct or alleged sexual misconduct of any cleric at anytime in the Archdiocese of Chicago.

65. On information and belief the Archdiocese has destroyed documents and/or concealed documents and/or failed to give documents to law enforcement relating to sexual misconduct or alleged sexual misconduct by clerics of the Archdiocese.

66. Unless injunctive relief is granted, children will be at imminent risk of being molested by clerics of the Archdiocese, law enforcement will be prevented from doing its job, and those children that have already been molested by clerics will have their rights negatively affected.

67. In order to ensure that children are protected and free from sexual molestation by clerics, the plaintiffs and the members of the class are entitled to an injunction ordering that the Archdiocese do the following:

- a) Turn over any document with any connection to any allegation of sexual misconduct by a cleric against a child to the Illinois Courts for supervision of these documents.
- b) Turn over any document with any connection to any allegation of sexual misconduct by a cleric against a child to law enforcement.
- c) Cease in the destruction or spoliation of any documents with any connection to any allegation of sexual misconduct by a cleric against a child.
- d) Cease to conceal or misplace any documents with any connection to any



allegation of sexual misconduct by a cleric against a child.

**COUNT III**  
**(Declaratory Judgment)**

68. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege every paragraph of this complaint as if set forth in Count III.

69. Plaintiffs bring Count III on their own behalf and on behalf of the class of similarly situated persons described in paragraph 7 of this Complaint.

70. There is an actual controversy between the plaintiffs and the members of the plaintiff class, on the one hand, and the Archdiocese, on the other hand, concerning whether the Archdiocese is adequately protecting children through its practices of not releasing the names of those clerics that have been accused of molesting children.

71. There is also an actual controversy between the plaintiffs and the members of the plaintiff class, on the one hand, and the Archdiocese, on the other hand, concerning whether the Archdiocese is adequately protecting children through its practice of not removing a cleric that is accused of molesting a child from any position where the cleric has any contact with children.

72. Finally, there is an actual controversy between the plaintiffs and the members of the plaintiff class, on the one hand, and the Archdiocese, on the other hand, concerning whether the Archdiocese is adequately protecting children through its practices of destroying and/or concealing documents evidencing allegations of sexual misconduct by clerics.

73. The plaintiffs and members of the plaintiff class are entitled to a declaration that the Archdiocesan practices of not releasing the names of clerics accused of sexual misconduct with minors, not removing clerics that are accused of sexual misconduct with children from positions where they have access to children, and by destroying and/or concealing documents, is

not adequate to protect children.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs respectfully request that this Court grant the relief requested within this complaint or any other relief the Court deems just in order to protect children.

Dated: January 31, 2006



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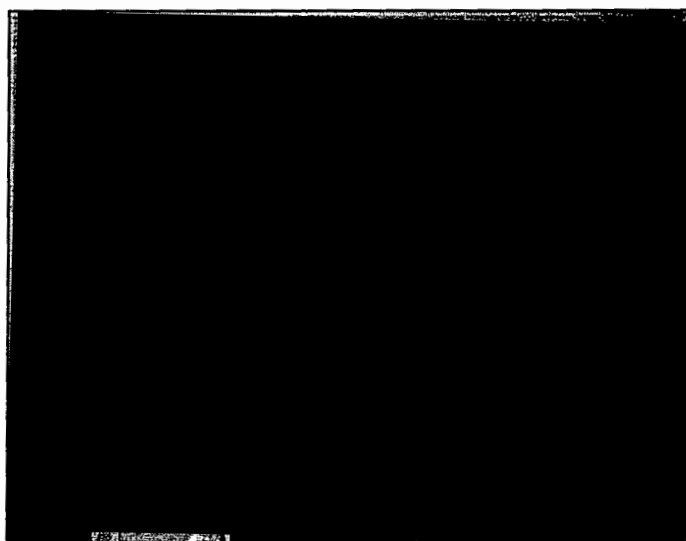
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By **KAREN HAWKINS**

**AP** Associated Press

Updated: 5:26 p.m. CT May 29, 2007

CHICAGO - The Archdiocese of Chicago paid \$6.65 million to settle claims made by 14 people who say they were abused by Catholic priests, the church and plaintiffs' attorneys said Tuesday.

The settlements were reached between March 2006 and March 2007 and cover lawsuits filed against 12 current and former priests for abuse that allegedly occurred from the 1960s to the early 1990s, attorney ██████████ said.

All of the priests named in the settlements have been removed from public ministry or are deceased, said Susan Burritt, archdiocese's

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media relatio. Director. She said the archdiocese traditionally has paid settlements with insurance money or by selling unused real estate.

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Three of the priests [redacted] [redacted] have been convicted on sex-related charges.

"The bad news is there's still more work to be done," [redacted] said. His legal team represents between 12 and 15 more victims whose cases have not yet been settled or mediated.

At a news conference Tuesday, [redacted], 33, said [redacted] abused him for about four years, beginning when [redacted] was 8 years old. He said he kept the abuse secret until about four years ago, when he told his wife and parents. Lawyers declined to disclose the amount of his settlement.

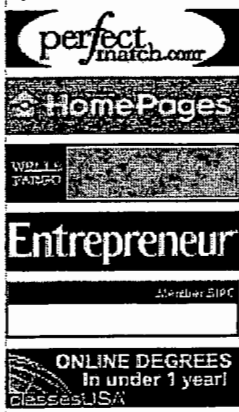
[redacted] and his mother [redacted], tearfully said they decided to share their story in the hopes that other victims will find the courage to speak up.

"I'm very proud of him that he's willing to come forward like this to help others," [redacted] said.

Elsewhere, the Archdiocese of St. Louis is suing a law firm that handles clergy sex abuse cases, claiming it is improperly circulating confidential documents related to eight current or former priests.

The archdiocese filed suit May 11 against the firm [redacted], claiming its lawyers shared personnel and medical documents with third parties, including a reporter for The St. Louis Post-Dispatch. The suit seeks to prohibit the law firm from such

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disclosures.

A phone call to the Post-Dispatch's editor was not immediately returned.

Lawyer ██████████ said documents received from the archdiocese were obtained by court orders which did not require lawyers to maintain confidentiality, except for medical records. He said settlements reached in the cases did not have confidentiality agreements.

Associated Press writer Betsy Taylor in St. Louis contributed to this report.

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